An Aggressive Submersed Aquatic Plant Invading Lake Shorelines

LAKESHORE ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.
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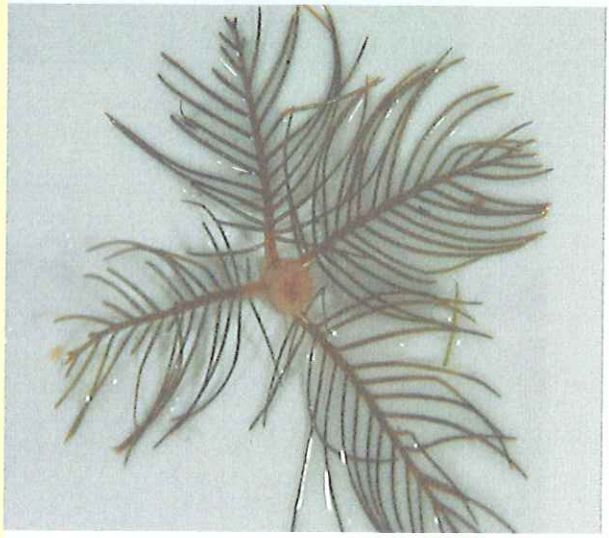
Myriophyllum spicatum - Eurasian Watermilfoil

Facts on Eurasian Watermilfol (EWM)….

- Introduced in the United States in 1880 (Reed, 1997)
- EWM causes significant decline in native aquatic vegetation (Madsen et al., 1991)
- EWM reduces the amount of light that would otherwise reach favorable lower-growing aquatic plants (Aiken et al., 1979)
- EWM decreases biodiversity of macroinvertebrates which are critical for a healthy fishery (Newroth, 1985)
- EWM closely resembles many native species of Watermilfoil; however, they will random grow in a canopy formation
- Millions of dollars are spent annually on Michigan inland lakes to control EWM (MDNRE website, 2008)

Places EWM may be found...

- Lakes
- Streams
- Rivers
- Ponds
- Reservoirs
- Drains
- Ditches
- Seasonal ponds
- Detention basins
- Bays
- Great Lakes



EWM typically has between 12-16 pairs of leaflets on each leaf within a whorl. Native Watermilfoil usually has less than or equal to 12.

Literature Cited

Aiken, S.G., P.R. Newroth, and I. Wile. 1979. The biology of Canadian weeds. 34. *Myriophyllum spicatum* L. *Can. J. Plant Sci.* 59: 201-215.

Madsen, J.D., J.W. Sutherland, J.A. Bloomfield, L.W. Eichler, and C.W. Boylen. 1991. The decline of native vegetation under dense Eurasian watermilfoil canopies, *Journal of Aquatic Plant Management* 29, 94-99.

Newroth, P.R. 1985. A review of Eurasian watermilfoil impacts and management in British Columbia. Pp. 139-153. In: Proc. First Int. Symp. On watermilfoil (*M. spicatum*) and related Haloragaceae species. July 23-24, 1985. Vancouver, BC, Canada. Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.

Reed, C.G. 1977. History and disturbance of Eurasian milfoil in the United States and Canada. *Phytologia* 36: 417-436.

A canopy formed by EWM on Round Lake, Mason County, 2006

Educate Yourself.....

Keep our waters free of EWM, visit the Michigan Sea Grant website for more info on how you can avoid the transfer of the plant to lakes via watercraft.

Keep Posted for More Additions to Lakeshore's New Science Database for Water Resource and Inland Lake Management at:

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