

A Lake Host's Guide to Aquatic Invasive Species Threatening New Hampshire's Lakes



Curly-leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*)

- **Key Characteristic:** Wavy, lasagna-like leaves with small “teeth” along edges.
- New leaf growth is a brighter green, and older growth is olive to brown in color.
- Produces dense leaf packets in late summer, which can stick to carpeted trailers and ropes.



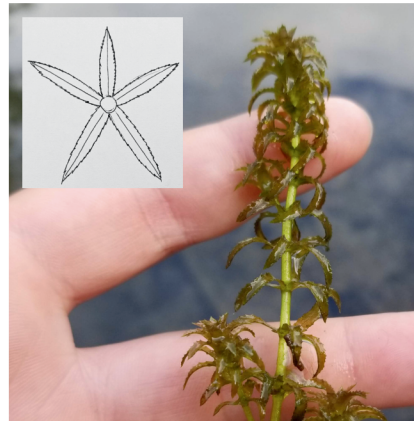
Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*)

- **Key Characteristic:** Underwater leaves resemble fans with handles, approx. 2 inches across.
- Produces small white flowers, sometimes accompanied by tiny, diamond-shaped floating leaves.



European naiad (*Najas minor*)

- **Key Characteristic:** Leaves are recurved (arched).
- Leaves have saw-like edges.
- Older plants become brittle and heavily branched and appear as green or green-red tufts in and out of the water.



Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*)

- **Key Characteristic:** Usually 5 (sometimes more) leaves are whorled (pictured) around the stem.
- Leaves have visible “teeth” along edges
- Stems are typically heavily branched and growing densely.



Variable Milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*)

- **Key Characteristic:** Leaves arranged in whorls (circles) around a thick red or green stem, often resembling a paint roller under the water when mature.
- When submerged, leaves are delicate and feather-like.



Eurasian milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)

- **Key Characteristic:** Feather-like leaves with blunt cut ends, appearing to be cut by scissors.
- Leaves are arranged in whorls (circles) around the stem. Commonly, there are 4 leaves in a whorl.
- Mature stems are brown to reddish in color.



Water chestnut (*Trapa natans*)

- **Key Characteristic:** Floating leaves are waxy and triangular with toothed edges.
- Sharp seeds with 4 barbed spikes grow beneath the floating leaves.
- Submerged leaves are feathery and circle around the stem.



Water violet (*Hottonia palustris*)

- **Key Characteristic:** Underwater leaves circled along the stem are fleshy, green, finely divided, and feathery.
- Small white to violet flowers grow in circles of 3-7 on a spike above the water's surface.



Asian clam (*Corbicula fluminea*)

- **Key Characteristic:** Around the size of a penny, the shell is greenish-yellow to brown.
- The shell has distinct ridges which are easily felt and seen.
- Inside the shell halves are stark white.



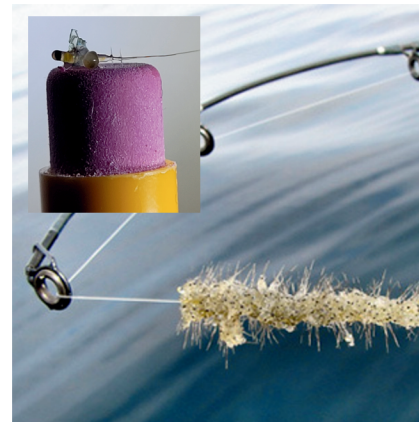
Chinese mystery snail (*Cipangopaludina chinensis*)

- **Key Characteristic:** Large, smooth, olive-green shell without color bands; range from 2-3 inches in diameter.
- Black, round, or oval outer lip can seal its opening shut with a "trapdoor."



Zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*)

- **Key Characteristic:** Small, fingernail-sized mussel with D-shaped shell.
- Shell has alternating yellow and brown stripes.



Spiny waterflea (*Bythotrephes longimanus*)

- **Key Characteristic:** Grows up to 0.6 inches long, with a long straight tail spine twice as long as its main body.
- On a fishing line, appears like bristly gobs of jelly with black spots.



Learn more about the characteristics of these AIS and more on our website at nhlakes.org/aquatic-invasive-species-in-new-hampshire, or use the QR code.

Reminder! Report all findings through the Boater Survey App or email lakehost@nhlakes.org.

