



EASTERN UP INVASIVE: **Curly Leaf Pondweed**

Potamogeton crispus



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WHY THE CONCERN?

Curly Leaf Pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*) is a rapid growing invasive aquatic plant which, once established, can grow very dense mats that can not only get caught in propellers and intake valves causing damage to boats, but can also reduce, or prevent the growth of native aquatic plants. This loss of natural habitat has a negative impact on fish and other native aquatic animals because it displaces the food which these animals rely on.

FEATURES OF CURLY LEAF PONDWEED

Curly leaf pondweed grows completely submerged in shallow waters to depths of 15 feet. It is identified by its finely-toothed and wavy reddish-green leaves which are alternately arranged on the stem. This plant can grow under the ice during the winter months, leaving no space for native plants to surface in the spring. Also, with a tendency to die back in the summer months, the resulting decomposition depletes oxygen levels, increases phosphorous levels, and promotes algal blooms. For additional advice about identifying or controlling this invasive species, please contact Biological Services at (906) 248-8652.



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CONTROL METHOD

Mechanical Control: rakes, hand pulling, trimmers

Herbicide Control: Contact your local biological office for more information



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