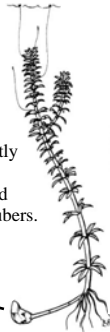




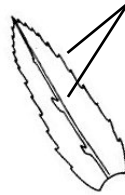
Hydrilla Watch

How to Identify *Hydrilla verticillata*

A submersed perennial aquatic plant with heavily branching erect stems. Leaves in whorls of three to eight join directly to the stem. Plants are rooted in the bottom and produce peanut-sized tubers.



Leaf margins are visibly toothed, and the underside of the leaf **may** have one or more spines (if present, the spines distinguish it from similar species).



Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

Produced by the NE Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel.
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Hydrilla Alert

Hydrilla verticillata is a non-native aquatic weed invading Northeast region waters. Hydrilla's long, vertical branches grow thick and choke out native plants, impede water flow, affect water quality, and prevent recreational activities such as boating, swimming, and fishing.

Hydrilla tolerates many types of habitats, spreads aggressively, and resists control once a population is established. Hydrilla has already been found in waterbodies in CT, MA and ME. **It is critical to prevent new hydrilla introductions into other Northeastern waterbodies.**

Who spreads hydrilla? People do! Anglers, boaters, swimmers, and aquarium owners must take special care not to spread plant fragments, and to follow these guidelines.

WHAT TO DO

Learn to identify *Hydrilla verticillata* and other invasive exotic aquatic species (Note: Hydrilla can easily be confused with native *Elodea* species and the non-native *Egeria densa*).

Avoid spreading plant fragments: clean boats and other recreational equipment after each use. Never dispose of aquarium plants into a body of water.

If you find hydrilla:

1. Note the date and precise location of the plants.
2. If possible, collect a piece of the plant and preserve it by wrapping it in a wet paper towel and storing it in a sealable plastic bag.
3. **Immediately** call the phone number corresponding to your state:
CTDEP: 860-424-3589 NHDES: 603-271-2248
MADEM: 617-626-1411 NYSDEC: 518-402-8282
MEDEP: 800-452-1942 VTDEC: 802-241-3777
RI Natural History Survey: 401-874-5800