Aquatic Invasive Species in Pleasant and Irogami Lakes, Waushara Co.

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Known Irogami Lake AIS

- Curly-leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*) (1998-WDNR)
- Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) (1994-WDNR)
- Banded mystery snail (*Viviparus georganus*) (2009-RC&D)
- Zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) (2013-WDNR)
Known Pleasant Lake AIS

- Chinese mystery snail (*Bellamya chinensis*) (2010-RC&D)
- Banded mystery snail (*Viviparus georgianus*) (2013-RC&D)
- Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) (2008-RC&D)
- Eurasian/northern watermilfoil hybrid (*Myriophyllum spicatum x sibiricum*) (2007 – WDNR?)
- Phragmites (*Phragmites australis*) (2013-RC&D)
Waushara County AIS surveys

All Waushara County public lakes surveyed in 2013.

Objectives:
Detect early populations of AIS
Map locations of these (GPS)
Involve interested lake residents
Work with residents to remove/control AIS
Create list of native plant species observed
Irogami Lake, Waushara County AIS survey results
June 11th, 2013
Conducted by Kaycie Stushek, Golden Sands RC&D
During the course of the survey, observed native aquatic plants were also recorded.

AIS & Aquatic Plant List (AIS highlighted in red and marked with an asterisk*)
Illinois pondweed
Water celery
Flat stem pondweed
Sago pondweed
Common waterweed
Southern naiad
Variable pondweed
Bullhead pond lily
Large leaf pondweed
Northern water milfoil
Muskgrass (1 species found – *Chara contraria*)
Hardstem bulrush
Leafy pondweed
White water lily
Horned pondweed
*Banded mystery snail

Notes:
No Eurasian water milfoil or curly-leaf pondweed found but is reported to DNR as having both. There were locations with abundant common waterweed, and locations with abundant variable pondweed. Zebra mussels have been found in the past near the culvert near Big Silver Lake, but none were seen during the survey. Freshwater sponges common throughout lake.
Pleasant Lake – Waushara County AIS survey results
July 25th, 2013
Conducted by Paul Skawinski & Chris Hamerla, Golden Sands RC&D; Steve Halvorsen, Pleasant Lake.

During the course of the survey, observed native aquatic plants were also recorded.

AIS & Aquatic Plant List (AIS highlighted in red and marked with an asterisk*)
White water lily
Slender naiad
*Hybrid watermilfoil (NWM/EWM)
Variable pondweed
Floating-leaf pondweed
*Banded mystery snail
Leafy pondweed
Hardstem bulrush
Coontail
Flat-stem pondweed
Water celery
Illinois pondweed
Muskgrasses (2 species found: Chara contraria, C. globularis)
Three-square bulrush
Sago pondweed
Small pondweed
Broad-leaf cattail
White-stem pondweed
Water stargrass
Fries' pondweed
Water smartweed
Greater duckweed
Small duckweed
Common bladderwort
Swamp milkweed (some albino flowers)
River bulrush
*Common reed (Phragmites australis)

Notes: Visibility 3ft, turbid. EWM (hybrid) fragments common. Small stand of Phragmites observed just onshore in the SE corner of the lake, in a seasonally wet area.
Curly-leaf Pondweed
*Potamogeton crispus*

- Accidentally introduced as aquarium plant (1880s)
- Fairly widespread – known in 517 water bodies (Dec 2013)
- Active from October-June in most lakes
- Can form dense mats, interfering with recreation and native plants
Eurasian Water-milfoil
*Myriophyllum spicatum*

- First found in WI in 1960s
- Currently known in 721 WI lakes (Dec 2013)
- Forms dense mats - interferes with water recreation
- Can spread from small fragments
Phragmites, common reed
*Phragmites australis* subsp. *australis*

- European ornamental grass
- Uncommon in central Wisconsin
- Forms dense colonies
- Roots exude chemicals harmful to other plants and fish
Chinese mystery snail

Bellamya chinensis

Introduced as a food item from Asia

Up to 3” tall

Operculum
Banded mystery snail

*Viviparus georgianus*

- Introduced via aquarium dumping
- Brown horizontal bands on shell
- Up to 1.5” tall
Zebra Mussels
*Dreissena polymorpha*

- Ballast water introduction to the Great Lakes in 1980’s
- Known from 178 WI inland lakes (Dec 2013)
- Attach to any hard surface - may reach tens of thousands per square meter!
- Female can produce 1 million eggs/season
- Filter feeders
What we can do

• Distribute maps and native plant lists from lake surveys
• Confirm suspected AIS and process voucher specimens
• AIS Monitoring / on-the-water Plant ID Training
• AIS removal training and assistance
• Host Clean Boats, Clean Waters workshops
• Provide educational materials on AIS
• Assist with grant application and permit development
• Coordinate purple loosestrife biological control projects
AIS Monitoring / Plant ID Training

FREE

Learn how to:

Identify AIS

Distinguish similar native species

Monitor for AIS in your lake
  - where to look
  - when to look
  - how to look
AIS Removal Training and Assistance

Species covered:

• Eurasian watermilfoil (manual removal)
• Curly-leaf pondweed (manual removal)
• Flowering rush (manual removal)
• Japanese knotweed (chemical removal)
• Phragmites (chemical removal)

Goal of self-sufficiency for future monitoring and removal
AIS Removal Training and Assistance

Japanese knotweed

FREE
AIS Removal Training and Assistance

Eurasian watermilfoil

FREE
Purple loosestrife biocontrol

We provide:
• free supplies
• rootstocks for pick-up
• beetles for pick-up
• coordination and instruction
Purple loosestrife biocontrol

Volunteers set up pools, pots (add soil), and nets; monitor water levels; and add/release beetles

FREE
Clean Boats, Clean Waters Workshops

We can:

- Provide training to volunteers / paid inspectors (we can hire)
- LTE assistance at landings
- Can enter inspection data
Monitoring is essential to prevention

- Get trained on identification of AIS and look-alike native species
- Keep an eye out for AIS while fishing, boating, snorkeling, etc.
- Know who to contact with questions or suspected AIS specimens
- Finding invasives early is crucial for inexpensive, easy management (eradication?)
Questions?

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