Aquatic Invasive Species in Marl Lake and West Branch Millpond, Waushara Co.

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Golden Sands RC&D
January 12th, 2015
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
Known Marl Lake AIS

- Banded mystery snail (*Viviparus georgianus*) (2009-RC&D)
- Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) (2011- RC&D)
- Hybrid Northern/Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum x sibiricum*) (2011)
- Curly leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*) (2012- RC&D)
Marl Lake – Waushara County AIS survey results
July 16th, 2013
Conducted by Paul Skawinski, 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*)**
Muskgrass (1 species found: *Chara contraria*)
Slender naiad
White water lily
Bullhead pond lily
Soft rush
*Banded mystery snail*
Broad-leaf cattail
Fries' pondweed
Hardstem bulrush
Bright green spikerush

**Notes:**
Visibility about 2.5ft. Hybrid watermilfoil was reported by lake group but was not observed during this survey.
Known West Branch Millpond AIS

• Banded mystery snail (*Viviparus georgianus*) (2009-RC&D)
• Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) (2002- RC&D)
• Curly leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*) (2008- RC&D)
West Branch Millpond, Waushara County AIS survey results
June 18th, 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 *)
Flat-stem pondweed
Illinois pondweed
Water celery
Common bladderwort
White-stem pondweed
Muskgrass
Sago pondweed
Coontail
*Curly leaf pondweed
*Eurasian watermilfoil

Notes:
Eurasian watermilfoil scattered along the north and northeast shorelines. One patch on western side in southwestern bay. Also in west bay towards center of lake (3 patches ~ 15 foot diameter each). Curly-leaf pondweed mixed in on north, northeast, and eastern sides of the lake.
West Branch Mill Pond

Eurasian Water Milfoil and Curly-leaf Pondweed

This map is not intended for use in chemical treatments.

Collected June 18, 2013

with a Garmin GPS map 62st

Date of Photography: Summer 2011

Location:
Town of Deerfield
Town 19N, Range 9E
Sections 25
Waushara County, Wisconsin

Printed: August 02, 2013
Eurasian Watermilfoil
*Myriophyllum spicatum*

- First found in WI in 1960s
- Currently known in 674 WI waters (April 2014)
- Forms dense mats - interferes with water recreation
- Can spread from small fragments
Curly-leaf Pondweed
*Potamogeton crispus*

- Accidentally introduced as aquarium plant (1880s)
- Fairly widespread – known in 538 water bodies (April 2014)
- Active from October-June in most lakes
- Can form dense mats, interfering with recreation and native plants
Banded Mystery Snail

*Viviparus georgianus*

- Introduced via aquarium dumping
- Brown horizontal bands on shell
- Up to 1.5” tall
Phragmites, Common Reed
*Phragmites australis* subsp. *australis*

- European ornamental grass
- Uncommon in central Wisconsin. Abundant near Lakes Michigan and Winnebago
- Forms dense colonies
- Roots exude chemicals harmful to other plants and fish
Japanese Knotweed
*Fallopia japonica*

- Imported from Japan as an ornamental plant
- Resembles bamboo, but unrelated
- Can grow upland. Most problematic in wetlands
What Golden Sands RC&D 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

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
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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Portage, Wood, Waupaca, Waushara, Marathon Counties

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