

**Rock Spot (*Didymosphenia geminata*)** Also called: Didymo

**General description:**

- Freshwater, single cell, diatom (algae)
- Attaches itself to a solid surface with a stalk
- Can reproduce asexually, resulting in large mats
- Found in rivers, streams, and lakes.
- Prefers flowing water sources
- Can spread from a single drop of water
- Light brown, brownish yellow, or white
- Looks like wet toilet paper
- Has the texture of wet wool or cotton, fibrous not slimy or slippery
- Not easy to pull apart
- Blooms in cooler temperatures but has been known to tolerate warmer conditions



**Brazilian Waterweed (*Egeria densa*)** Also called: Brazilian elodea, dense waterweed, leafy elodea, anacharis



**General description:**

- Aquatic submerged plant
- single stem
- Grows in water as deep as 12'
- Can grow up to 6' long
- Lakes, ponds, and slow moving streams and rivers

**Leaves:**

- Bright green, whorled, 4-8 (typically 4) leaflets, each 1" long
- Serrated (need magnifying glass to see)



**Flowers (blooms June-October):**

- Flower is 1" above water surface
- White, with three petals, 0.5"-1" wide

**Water-hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*)** Also called: common water hyacinth, water-orchid

**General description:**

- Free floating aquatic perennial
- Grows up to 3' tall
- Roots blue-black to dark purple
- Lakes, ponds, slow moving water, ditches, backwater areas

**Leaves:**

- Thick, waxy, round, 6" wide
- Thick, spongy, bulbous petiole, grows up to 12" long

**Flowers:**

- Showy 12" long spike
- 2" wide, pale purple, 1 yellow spot

**Fruit (rarely seen):**

- 3-celled capsule with many seeds



**Mudmat (*Glossostigma cleistanthum*)**



**General description:**

- Herb, perennial if submerged or annual if emergent
- Shallow root system
- Forms dense mats
- Full sun, littoral zone, shoreline

**Leaves:**

- Leaves 0.5-1" long, paired

- Bright green
- Spatulate-shaped leaf, thin at base of widening toward tip

**Flowers:**

- Blooms August to November
- Tiny bell-shaped, pastel colored flowers

**Fruit:**

- Tiny capsules, very difficult to find

**Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*)** Also called: Esthwaite waterweed

**General description:**

- Freshwater submerged
- Herbaceous perennial
- Slender stems, can grow up to 25'
- Can grow in shallow water and in water as deep as 30'
- Serrated
- Midrib has 1+ sharp spines
- Has an auxiliary leaf scale

**Leaves:**

- Whirled, normally 5 leaflets
- Each leaflet 0.25--.75" long

**Flowers:**

- A single tiny white flower
- 3 translucent petals

**Fruit:**

- Reproduces via fragmentation, by using buds (turions)



**Common Frogbit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*)** Also called: European frog-bit

**General description:**

- Free floating, perennial, aquatic plant
- Extensive root system
- Creates dense mats on water surface
- Ponds, lakes, slow moving waters
- Leaves:**
- Kidney shaped, 1-3.5" wide
- Lush green surface with a purplish-red spongy underside

**Flowers (blooms June-August):**

- Small white single flower with yellow center, 1" wide, 3 petals
- Fruit:**
- Reproduces by fragmentation via buds, turions, 0.2" long . No seeds



**European waterclover (*Marsilea quadrifolia*)** Also called: European pepperwort

**General description:**

- Aquatic to amphibious fern
- Creeping rhizomes (root-like pieces)
- No roots
- Shallow water of lakes, ponds, slow section of rivers, streams, wet shores
- Leaves:**

- Four-leaf clover-like, smooth edges
- Floats on water
- 1"-2" across

**Flowers:**

- Non-flowering--reproduces through spores
- Spores are located in hard-shelled cases near the rhizomes



**Parrot feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)** Also called: Watermilfoil

**General description:**

- Herbaceous rooted submergent or emergent
- Stems trail along ground or water surface; become erect & leafy at ends
- Stems 5'-6' long
- Lakes, ponds, slow moving streams
- Can form dense mats
- Leaves:**
- Each leaf is pinnately compound (1 center

- stem with leaflets)
- Abundant, bright green, feathery
- 4-6 leaves whorled around stem
- Emergent leaves are larger, less divided & greener than submerged leaves, 0.8-2" long
- Submerged leaves: 0.6"-1.5" long
- Flowers (blooms spring or fall):**
- Inconspicuous
- Formed in the axils of emergent leaves



**Water Lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*)**

**General description:**

- Free-floating, perennial aquatic plant
- Long feathery roots, creates large dense mats
- Looks like a floating open head of lettuce
- Can grow up to 12" wide
- Dies off in cold weather
- Lakes, ponds, slow moving water
- Leaves:**

- Velvety, grey-green leaves
- Prominent parallel veins
- Leaves are large (4-6" wide), thick, spongy
- Flowers (blooms late summer, early winter):**
- Inconspicuous and hidden in leaves, yellow and short-stalked
- Fruit:**
- Produces small green berries
- Can reproduce by seed or runners



**Water Chestnut (*Trapa natans*)**

**General description:**

- Rooted aquatic , annual
- Mat-forming, explosive growth
- Ponds, lakes, streams, slow moving, nutrient rich waters
- Leaves:**
- Floating rosette of triangular, sharply toothed leaves, 0.75"-1.5"
- Stems up to 6" long with swollen portions (buoyancy)

- Prominently veined with short, stiff hairs below
- Feathery submerged leaves up to 6", opposite
- Flowers (blooms July-frost):**
- Tiny, white, 4 petals
- Appear in center of rosette
- Fruit (ripened till frost):**
- Submerged, 1" wide
- Nut-like, with 4 barbed spines (can pierce animals)

