

# EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL

*Myriophyllum spicatum*



Be on the lookout for this invader!

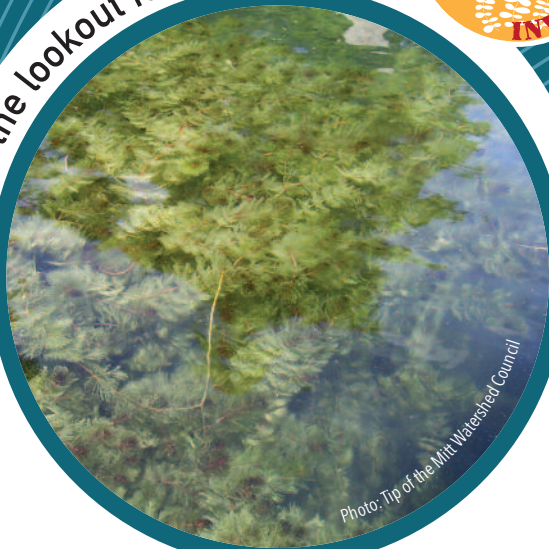


Photo: Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

## Description:

Submergent, aquatic perennial, reaches 3-10 ft. or more in length; forms dense mats. Stems green, brown or pinkish white. Olive green leaves whorled, pinnately divided with 12-21 fine segments on each side. Leaves lie parallel with water surface. Male and female flowers on the same inflorescence. At least two other (native) watermilfoils occur in Northern Michigan.

## Habitat:

Ponds, lakes and low-energy zones in rivers and streams.  
In depths of 3-15 ft.

## Mode of Spread:

Vegetatively by fragmentation and runners; dispersed by boats and currents.

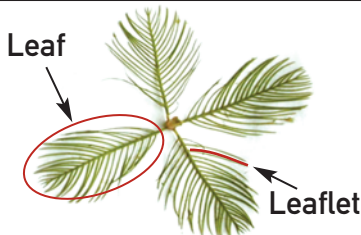
# IDENTIFICATION

STEM



Photo: Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

LEAVES



FLOWERS



Photo: Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

**Stems:** Thick near the base, becoming more slender and branching near the water surface; usually 3-10 ft. long.

**Leaves:** Submerged, feather-like, 4 (rarely 5) leaves whorled around stem at each node, each leaf with 12-21 (natives usually have 5-10) threadlike pairs of leaflets. Leaves have a "fish bone" appearance with a clipped tip. Bright green in color, limp when out of water.

**Flowers:** Inconspicuous, yellow in color, 4-parted, flower spikes rise 2-4" above water surface.

**Fruit and Seeds:** Seed pod that contains 4 seeds.

## Known to occur at these locations in Northern Michigan:

- Burt Lake
- Lake Charlevoix
- Mullett Lake
- Thumb Lake
- Clam Lake
- Lake Huron
- Paradise Lake
- Torch Lake
- Clam River
- Lake Michigan
- Six Mile Lake
- Torch River
- Elk Lake
- Long Lake
- St. Clair Lake
- Walloon Lake

*(Published 2015)*

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