



Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is a 501(c) 4 non-profit corporation formed over twenty years ago in order to effectively advocate for the creation or preservation of state laws, and/or policies designed to protect, preserve, and promote the sustainable and wise use of our state's immense treasure of high quality freshwater resources. Our primary mission will be accomplished by pro-active participation in Michigan's legislative process (lobbying), by participating in court cases whose outcomes may have significant statewide ramifications, and/or by direct involvement with natural resources management, or environment focused state agencies or departments.



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The "World's Worst Invasive Aquatic Plant", *Hydrilla verticillata*, Recently Observed In Waters Located Just 203 Miles from Michigan's East Coast

Achieving the well-earned illustrious title as “the world’s worst invasive aquatic plant” since it was first detected in North America growing in Florida’s Crystal River over sixty years ago, *hydrilla verticillata* has now been observed in waters located just 203 miles east of Port Huron, Michigan. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation officials recently reported that hydrilla, also commonly referred to as water thyme, Florida elodea, or Indian star-vine, has recently been found at the City of North Tonawanda Marina.

Capable of quickly forming monocultures of extraordinary density that are achieved and sustained by the plant’s prodigious reproductive capacity, exotic invasive hydrilla is a submerged, rooted aquatic plant that is primarily identified by the presence of four to eight blade-like leaves possessing serrated edges that are evenly spaced around the plant’s often lengthy stem. Enabled by its ability to photosynthesize in low light conditions, hydrilla often takes root in water depths, depending upon water transparency, of up to twenty feet. Found in a diverse array

of freshwater habitats including rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, marshes, canals, ditches and reservoirs, hydrilla's ability to thrive in low light conditions as well as within low water temperatures that are present in early spring gives hydrilla a distinct competitive advantage over most native aquatic plant species. Capable of growing up to one inch per day, and of doubling its bio-mass every two weeks in optimal growing conditions that are present in early to mid-summer, it is important to note that hydrilla's significant competitive advantages in northern temperate aquatic ecosystems are enhanced by the fact that there are no known natural predators, or diseases that may have otherwise served to limit the overall abundance of the prolific hyper-vegetative invader.



Native to eastern regions of the Eurasian continent, hydrilla possesses the innate ability to quickly establish dense underwater meadows that act to effectively crowd-out beneficial native aquatic plants, alter water chemistry in a manner that threatens native flora and fauna, cause dissolved oxygen depletion facilitated fish kills, significantly increase water temperature, and is capable of having a dramatic effect on the diversity and abundance of native fish populations. Indicating that hydrilla is capable of “choking out” waterways, interfering with recreational boating activities and sport fishing, stifling local water sport associated businesses, and of negatively impacting “all the things that we have come to enjoy” from our lakes and rivers, officials from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Buffalo District reminds us that that hydrilla is an exceptionally aggressive invasive aquatic plant that possesses the ability to wreak havoc within affected aquatic ecosystems. It is important to point out that the Buffalo District of USACE is also currently involved in several projects to eradicate hydrilla in the Erie Canal and Tonawanda Creek as well as within Cayuga Lake located near Aurora, New York, and is lending

its hydrilla management related expertise to an on-going project to remove hydrilla from the Connecticut River.

Observed in 70% of Florida's freshwater drainage basins, exotic invasive hydrilla has long since become the state's most abundant aquatic plant. It is also important to point out that infestations of *hydrilla* are increasingly widespread within freshwater ecosystems distributed throughout much of the eastern half of the United States, including the Patuxent and Potomac Rivers, Indiana's Lake Manitou, New York's Finger Lakes, Wisconsin, and in numerous fresh water sites located west of the Mississippi River.

Introduced to North America over sixty years ago as an inadvertent by-product of a thriving exotic aquarium trade, hydrilla is now primarily spread from river-to-river and lake-to-lake by the 95% of recreational boaters who tow their watercraft, and who contribute to the gradual spread of exotic aquatic invasive species by failing to comply with 'Clean – Drain – Dry' protective measures.



HELP STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

To avoid spreading aquatic invasive species

BEFORE launching ... BEFORE leaving:

- Remove aquatic plants and aquatic animals
- Drain lake or river water away from landing
- Dispose of unwanted live bait in the trash

It's the Law... Do not:

- Transport aquatic plants, zebra mussels, or other prohibited species on public roads
- Launch a watercraft or place a trailer in the water if it has aquatic plants, zebra mussels or other prohibited species attached
- Transport water from infested waters

Michigan Department of Natural Resources



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES
CARING FOR MICHIGAN'S OUTDOOR PLACES AND STORIES SINCE 1921



Contact: [Joanne Foreman](#), 517-284-5814

NotMISpecies webinars offer help for backyard invasive species problems and more

Register now for upcoming sessions

New sessions in the [NotMISpecies webinar series](#) will offer an abundance of information, resources and field experiences to help identify and manage invasive species in Michigan.

Supported by Michigan's Invasive Species Program, the regular, hourlong webinars are designed to keep participants informed of available programs, current research and emerging issues in the state and the Great Lakes region. Question and answer sessions and links to resources help attendees get the most out of each presentation.

To register for these upcoming events, click on the title of each session below to go to the registration page.

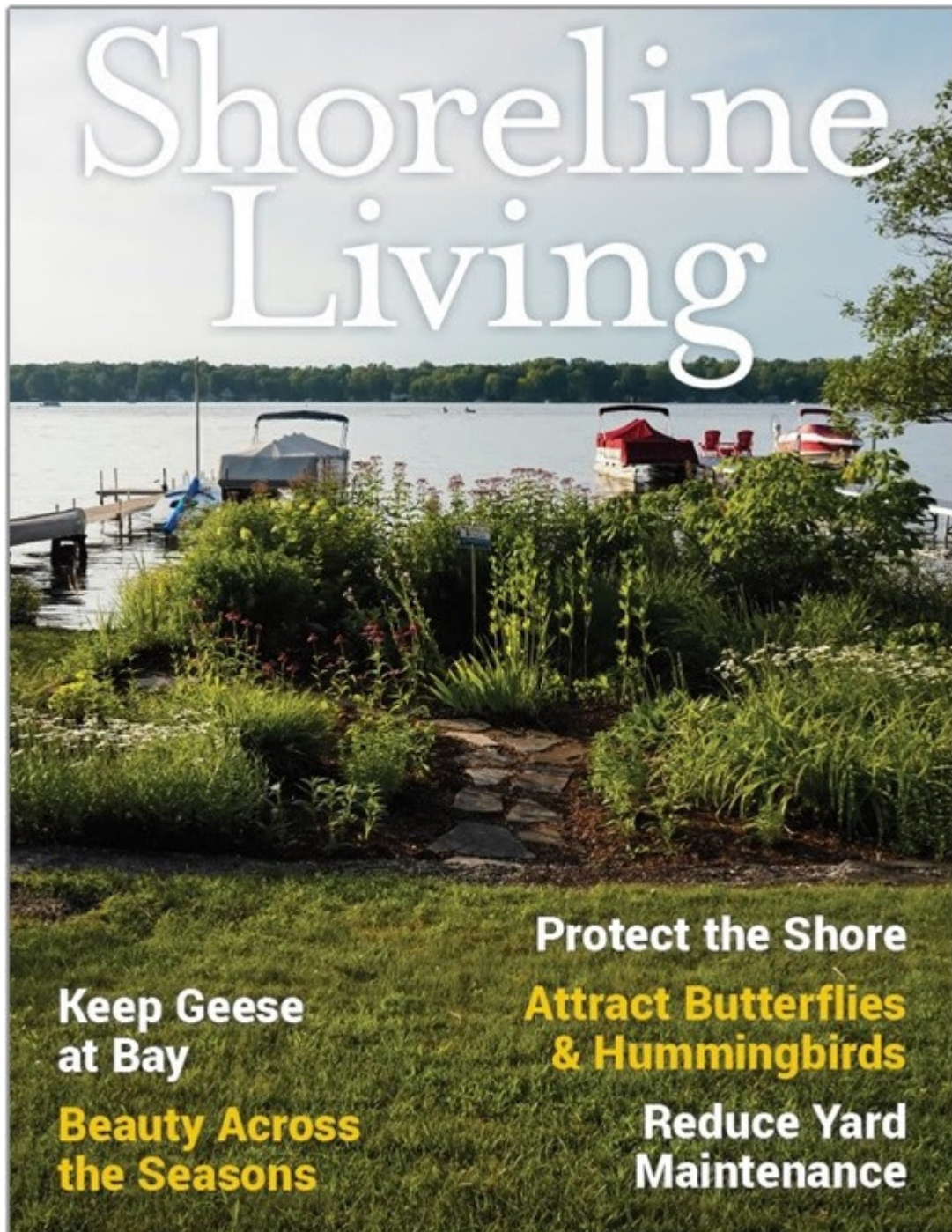
[“Fowl play”](#) (9:00 AM - Wednesday, Sept. 15) explores the work of protecting Michigan’s managed waterfowl hunt areas from the threat of invasive species. DNR wildlife biologists Jeremiah Heise from Nayanquing Point State Wildlife Area and Zach Cooley from Pointe Mouillee State Game Area share their experiences and techniques for managing and restoring Michigan’s Wetland Wonders to provide prime habitat for waterfowl viewing and hunting.

[“Just do it!”](#) (9:00 AM - Thursday, Oct. 21) offers an invitation to learn about invasive species management by volunteering for a state park stewardship workday. DNR natural resource stewards Kelsey Dillon and Emily Leslie will share information about the program and its focus on special habitat areas in need of protection. Learn how you can get involved in preserving your favorite places for future generations.

If you are new to the series, it's easy to catch up on topics including collaborative efforts in invasive carp management, early detection and response for aquatic invasive species, and the threat posed by spotted lanternfly. Recorded versions of all previous [NotMISpecies webinars](#) are available at Michigan.gov/EGLEEvents under "Featured Webinar Series."

Michigan's Invasive Species Program, a collaborative effort of the departments of Natural Resources; Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; and Agriculture and Rural Development, coordinates and supports invasive species initiatives across the state and provides support through the [Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program](#).





Receive a Free Copy of the Michigan Glacial Lakes Partnership's Shoreline Living document

Do you want to promote natural shorelines on your lake or in your area? Consider requesting copies of the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership's (MGLP) Shoreline Living document to assist you in your efforts. This colorful publication is the perfect conversation starter for encouraging best shoreline management practices to reduce erosion, improve water quality, and conserve fish habitat!

For a limited time, the MGLP is shipping out free boxes of Shoreline Living in bulk. If you or your organization would like to receive copies, please place your request using this form by September 10, 2021. We've received grant funding to distribute over 18,000 copies across the Upper Midwest, so don't be shy in your request!



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY



Aug. 19, 2021

Program contact: [Tom Alwin](#), 517-342-4069

Media contact: EGLE Media Office, EGLE-Assist@Michigan.gov or 517-284-9278

As invasive European frog-bit spreads, boaters reminded to 'Clean, Drain and Dry'

European frog-bit, an invasive aquatic plant, has been found in the lower Lincoln River in Mason County. The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy also has confirmed the presence of [European frog-bit](#) in several other locations across the state.

“Because aquatic invasive plants like European frog-bit are difficult and costly to control, we are reminding boaters, waterfowl hunters and anglers to remove plants and debris from boats, trailers and gear after each use to prevent the spread of this and other invasive species,” said Joanne Foreman, invasive species communications coordinator with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

European frog-bit was first detected in southeast Michigan in 1996 and has since spread along the coastal areas of lakes Erie and Huron up to the eastern Upper Peninsula.

In 2016, the plant, which resembles a miniature water lily with leaves about the size of a quarter, was discovered in Reeds and Fisk lakes in East Grand Rapids. More recently, it was discovered in the Lower Grand River (Ottawa County) and Pentwater Lake (Oceana County) in 2019 and Dansville State Game Area (Ingham County), Waterloo Recreation Area (Jackson and Washtenaw counties) and the Les Cheneaux Islands (Mackinac County) in 2020.





The problem

European frog-bit can form dense mats on the surface of slow-moving waters like bayous, backwaters and wetlands. These mats can impede boat traffic and movement of large fish and diving ducks.

Because European frog-bit is free-floating, it can easily spread or be transported to new locations. European frog-bit also produces seed-like structures called turions that may remain dormant for multiple seasons. Activities like boating, waterfowl hunting and fishing can unintentionally help spread the invasive plant because plant parts and turions can attach to boats, trailers and gear.

Many of the bodies of water where European frog-bit is being found are popular destinations for fishing, hunting and water recreation, which means there is a high potential to spread European frog-bit from these locations to other areas of the state.

What we're doing

Michigan's Invasive Species Program staff and partners plan and undertake survey and response efforts. Michigan's Invasive Species Program is cooperatively

implemented by the DNR, EGLE and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

For the newly discovered European frog-bit site in the lower Lincoln River, the [North Country Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area](#) is developing a response plan that includes chemical control to prevent further spread while the population is still small and localized.

The [Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation and Development Council](#) and all five [U.P. CISMAs](#) are working together to survey high-risk areas across the entire U.P. To date, no new infestations have been found outside known infested areas in Chippewa and Mackinac counties.

The [Oakland County CISMA](#) is leading a large-scale effort to document European frog-bit distribution across the county and conduct targeted control efforts to reduce further spread.

To address recently detected European frog-bit populations in Ingham and Washtenaw counties, EGLE staff is working with both the [Mid-Michigan](#) and the [Jackson, Lenawee and Washtenaw](#) CISMAs to contain the invasive plant and reduce the chance of spread to other nearby bodies of water.

How you can help

If you think you have seen European frog-bit outside of these known locations, please email EGLE-WRD-AIP@Michigan.gov and provide the location and a photograph.

Additionally, boaters, anglers, and waterfowl hunters are being asked to [Clean, Drain and Dry](#) any boats, trailers and other gear prior to use in another body of water to help prevent the spread of European frog-bit and other aquatic invasive species.

- **Clean:** Inspect boats, trailers, docks and gear and remove all mud, debris and plant material. Use a hose or power washer when available. Dispose of unwanted material in a trash can.
- **Drain:** Remove water from live wells, bait buckets, bilges and other compartments before leaving an access site.
- **Dry:** Allow boats and gear to dry for at least five days, if possible, before use in other bodies of water.

For more information about European frog-bit and other invasive species, visit Michigan.gov/Invasives.

Michigan's Invasive Species Program is cooperatively implemented by the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Note to editors: The accompanying photos are available for download. Caption information follows.

Illustration: European frog-bit is a free-floating aquatic plant with small (0.5- to 2.5-inch) leaves. Illustration courtesy of Bruce Kerr.

Turions: Tiny, seed-like structures called turions can attach to boats and gear and spread European frog-bit to new locations.

Alwin: EGLE aquatic biologist Tom Alwin removes European frog-bit from a backwater area in Pentwater River State Game Area.



>> We Need Your Help!!! <<

Why You Should Join Michigan Waterfront Alliance?

Do you care for your lake, river, or stream? Do you care enough to contact your state senator or representative about issues that affect your waterbody? Do you keep track of the bills that are important to your lake, river, or stream? The good news is that Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is doing this for you. MWA hires a lobbying firm to keep track of issues and bills which may affect Michigan's

waterfronts, and remain in constant contact with senators and representatives. These lobbyists have relationships with those serving in our state legislature, willing to present bills that MWA would support to help protect Michigan's inland waterways, and help to defeat bills that may be detrimental to our waterways. There is an old saying that "you can't fight city hall." This may be true if you do not know how, but with the help of MWA's attorneys, MWA has the experts that know how to deal with legal issues. There have been laws interpreted incorrectly when it comes to our lakes, rivers, and streams. MWA, with its attorneys, has argued these cases when we believe the law has been misinterpreted.

While the MWA Board of Directors is made up of volunteers, it is expensive to hire lobbyists and attorneys. The Michigan Waterfront Alliance membership is made up of individuals, lake associations, and corporations who care about Michigan's lakes, rivers, and streams. Would you like to be more involved? You can by becoming a member of Michigan Waterfront Alliance and by becoming an active partner in MWA. Membership in MWA is inexpensive:

**We rely entirely on membership dues to fund
the operating costs of our organization...**

**TO BECOME A MEMBER OF
MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE VISIT OUR
>>>>> MEMBERSHIP PAGE <<<<<**

Annual Dues are:

\$50 for an individual;

\$100 for a lake association; and

\$200 for a corporation

With support from individuals like you, lake associations, and corporations, we can continue to work together as a unified voice choosing to protect Michigan's water resources for future generations. Thank you for your consideration!!!



-DNR NEWS-

August 26, 2021

Share your thoughts with the DNR at upcoming meetings

The Department of Natural Resources is committed to providing Michigan residents the opportunity to share input and ideas on policy decisions, programs and other aspects of natural resource management and outdoor recreation opportunities.

One important avenue for this input is at meetings of the public bodies that advise the DNR and, in some cases, also set policies for natural resource management. Frequently check the [DNR boards, commissions, committees and councils webpage](#) for updates.

The links below will take you to the webpage for each group, where you will find meeting details such as location and agenda (when finalized). Please check these pages frequently, as meeting details may change and sometimes meetings are canceled.

September meetings

- [Belle Isle Park Advisory Committee](#) – Thursday, Sept. 23, 9 a.m. (Contact: Barbara Graves, 517-284-6135).
- [Equine Trails Subcommittee](#) – Wednesday, Sept. 22, 1 p.m. (Contact: Annalisa Centofanti, 517-331-6219).
- [Lake Superior Citizens Fishery Advisory Committee](#) – Wednesday, Sept. 29, 6:30 p.m. (Contact: Patrick Hanchin, 231-330-5290).
- [Michigan Historical Commission](#) – Thursday, Sept. 9, 9:30 a.m. (Contact: Michelle Davis, 517-331-7374).
- [Michigan Natural Resources Commission](#) – Thursday, Sept. 16, 9 a.m. (Contact: Victoria Lischalk, 517-599-1067).
- [Snowmobile Advisory Workgroup](#) – Thursday, Sept. 30, 10 a.m. (Contact: Annalisa Centofanti, 517-331-6219).
- [Timber and Forest Products Advisory Council](#) – Friday, Sept. 24, 8:30 a.m. (Contact: Kimberley Korbecki, 517-284-5876).
- [Underwater Salvage and Preserve Committee](#) – Wednesday, Sept. 29, 1 p.m. (Contact: Sheri Giffin, 517-335-2591).

- [Western Upper Peninsula Citizens Advisory Council](#) – Wednesday, Sept. 22, 6 p.m. EDT (Contact: Stacy Welling Haughey, 906-226-1331).
- [Wolf Management Advisory Council](#) – Wednesday, Sept. 1, 9 a.m. (Contact: Victoria Lischalk, 517-599-1067).

Upcoming opportunity to serve

The [Equestrian Trails Subcommittee](#) is seeking active equestrians who have an interest in serving on this subcommittee as a statewide tourism equine industry representative. The position is for a four-year term, and will identify and promote partnerships and pack and saddle recreation opportunities and collaborate with trail riding communities. Please complete the [online application](#) by Sept. 10. Contact [Annalisa Centofanti](#) with questions or for more information.

DNR COVID-19 RESPONSE: For details on affected DNR facilities and services, [visit this webpage](#). Follow state actions and guidelines at [Michigan.gov/Coronavirus](#).

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. For more information, go to [Michigan.gov/DNR](#).

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Visit us on our website: [Michigan.gov/DNR](#)

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48909 ·

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Michigan Waterfront Alliance is a proud member of the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership

A Collaborative Partnership Dedicated to Protecting Michigan's Vast Heritage of High Quality Inland Lakes

The Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership (MILP) is made up of a broad range of organizations and agencies that have a common interest - protecting inland lakes. Explore this site to learn more about Michigan's lakes, the organizations involved with the Partnership, and how you can be a part of the effort. You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!

Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes. Most are high quality resources highly valued by society for recreation and as places to live. These cultural demands place significant stresses upon these ecosystems, often resulting in undesirable changes. How can these lakes be strategically managed to minimize undesirable changes and protect them for this and future generations?

The purpose of the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership (Partnership) is to engage state and local agencies, Native American Nations, outreach institutions (universities and other educational institutions), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), businesses, industries and citizens in a collaborative effort to ensure the quality, sustainability and ecological diversity of lakes, while considering society's needs. The Partnership will promote communication and cooperation between partners, communities and citizens interested in the management of Michigan's inland lakes, educating leaders, and strengthening stewardship efforts.

The MILP Coordinating Council is the decision-making body of the Partnership. The Council sets the goals of the Partnership, and all Council Partners have a vote in the activities and policies of the Partnership. The Council currently meets four times per

year. Coordinating Council member organizations are listed alphabetically below. Clicking on an organization name will take you to that organization's website.

To learn more about the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership, and its ensemble of inland lake protection focused collaborative organizations, [click here](#)



Join Michigan Waterfront Alliance!

- Are you tired of funding the management of aquatic invasive species on your lake that were introduced by recreational boaters using the local MI Department of Natural Resources public boating access site?
- Are you just a bit angry that recreational boaters using your lake are not being asked to contribute their fair share to combat the negative influences of aquatic invasive species?
- Are you worried about the fact that your lakefront residential property values are being negatively influenced by the steadily increasing presence of aquatic invasive species?
- Are you concerned about the fact that it is nearly impossible to find an inland lake in Michigan that does not currently host one or more potentially harmful aquatic invasive species?
- Are you aware of the fact that inland lakes are Michigan's most valuable natural resource, and that our state legislature has thus far appropriated almost nothing in the way of budget resources to help ensure they remain healthy and viable?

If your answer is yes to any of these important questions, please help ensure that your voice is heard in Lansing by joining Michigan Waterfront Alliance today.

[Click here to Join MWA](#)

Visit the Michigan Waterfront Alliance Web Site by Clicking Here

Unsubscribe

This message was sent to roberttfrye@gmail.com from scottb1952@gmail.com

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