

# Invasive Aquatic Plants

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Curlyleaf Pondweed

Photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff,  
University of Connecticut,  
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13B

Eurasian  
Watermilfoil

Photo: Graves Lovell, Alabama  
Department of Conservation and  
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13C

Flowering Rush

Photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of  
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Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

## Curlyleaf Pondweed

Curlyleaf pondweed is native to Africa, Eurasia and Australia, and was introduced into the United States in the early 1900s by hobbyists who used this plant in aquariums. When the aquarium water was dumped into lakes, streams, and rivers, curlyleaf pondweed established and crowded out native

**Class:** Magnoliopsida  
**Family:** Potamogetonaceae  
**Species:** *Potamogeton crispus* Linnaeus

species. This plant has curly edged leaves that resemble lasagna noodles and a four-angled stem that can grow to lengths of up to 31 inches! Native species of pondweed in Montana have veins that run parallel, whereas veins of curly leaf pondweed branch from a mid-vein in a perpendicular pattern. Report sightings to your local Extension office, county weed office or FWP by calling 406-444-2449. For more information and to visit the source link to:

<http://mtweed.org/weeds/curly-leaf-pondweed/>

[http://agr.mt.gov/agr/Programs/AgClassroom/k-8projects/noxiousweeededucation/PDF/30\\_Curlyleaf\\_Pondweed.pdf](http://agr.mt.gov/agr/Programs/AgClassroom/k-8projects/noxiousweeededucation/PDF/30_Curlyleaf_Pondweed.pdf)



Graves Lovell, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bugwood.org

## Eurasian Watermilfoil

Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) is a submerged aquatic plant that is native to Europe, Asia and North Africa. EWM has slender floating stems, submerged leaves that are borne in whorls of four, pinnate, with 12-21 pairs of thread-like leaflets. To determine the difference between native milfoil

**Class:** Magnoliopsida  
**Family:** Haloragaceae  
**Species:** *Myriophyllum spicatum* Linnaeus

and EWM, count the number of pairs on a leaf. Native northern milfoil has less than 12 pairs of thread-like leaflets on a whorl. The most common way that EWM is spread is through distribution by watercraft; even the smallest fragment of EWM can establish new plants. Report sightings to your local Extension office, county weed office or FWP by calling 406-444-2449. For more information and to visit the source link to:

<http://mtweed.org/weeds/eurasian-water-milfoil/>

[http://agr.mt.gov/agr/Programs/AgClassroom/k-8projects/noxiousweeededucation/PDF/31\\_Eurasian\\_Watermilfoil.pdf](http://agr.mt.gov/agr/Programs/AgClassroom/k-8projects/noxiousweeededucation/PDF/31_Eurasian_Watermilfoil.pdf)



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

## Flowering Rush

Flowering rush is native to Eurasia and was introduced into the United States as an ornamental that escaped cultivation. Flowering rush grows in ditches, marshes, lakes and streams. This aquatic perennial can grow up to 5 feet tall, has a triangular 3-sided stem, and sword-like leaves that can be up

**Class:** Magnoliopsida  
**Family:** Butomaceae  
**Species:** *Butomus umbellatus* Linnaeus

to 3 feet long. Flowering rush blooms from June to August. Flowers consist of 3 pink petals and 3 pink sepals that resemble petals. The primary way that this plant reproduces is through creeping rhizomatous roots and 'bulb-lets' that are produced on the rhizomes. Report sightings to your local Extension office, county weed office or FWP by calling 406-444-2449. For more information and to visit the source link to:

<http://mtweed.org/weeds/flowering-rush/>

[http://agr.mt.gov/agr/Programs/AgClassroom/k-8projects/noxiousweeededucation/PDF/32\\_Flowering\\_Rush.pdf](http://agr.mt.gov/agr/Programs/AgClassroom/k-8projects/noxiousweeededucation/PDF/32_Flowering_Rush.pdf)