A GUIDE TO MONTANA’S FRESHWATER AQUATIC PLANTS
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Gerald D. Carr, University of Oregon. Limosella aquatica (plant form), Limosella aquatica (flower), Potamogeton foliosus

Arthur Haines, New England Wild Flower Society. Alisma triviale, Callitriche stagnalis, Iris pseudacorus, Nasturtium officinale, Potamogeton natans (plant form), Utricularia macrorhiza (flower), Wolffia spp. (cover photo)

Peter Lesica. Nuphar lutea spp. polysepalum (plant form), Nymphaea odorata (plant form), Tamarix ramosissima

Campbell & Lynn Loughmiller, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Nuphar lutea spp. polysepalum (Flower)

Ray Mathews, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Nymphaea odorata

Montana Department of Agriculture. Butomus umbellatus, file photo

Jennifer Parsons, State of Washington Department of Ecology. Myriophyllum quinitense

Tony Rodd. Nitella spp.

R.W. Smith, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Potamogeton nodosus (fruits), Potamogeton nodosus (plant form)
Free Floating Plants

Free-floating plants float in the water column, on the surface of the water, or lie on the bottom. This category includes some of the smallest members of the plant kingdom, such as watermeal plants, which look like green specks on the water surface. These plants do not root in the sediment, although some species have roots that dangle in the water. They sometimes form extensive green mats on the water surface.

Shoreline Plants

Shoreline plants grow along edges of lakes, rivers, streams, and ponds or on wet ground away from open water. They have at least part of their stems, leaves, and flowers emerging above the water surface and are rooted in the sediments. Some plants that typically grow in deep water may be found along the shoreline in late summer when water levels are low.