

# Submersed Weeds

**Northern Milfoil**



Leaves whorled in groups of four. Each leaf is divided into many thread-like leaflets extending from a central rib. Forms tangled mats at the surface.

**Eurasian Milfoil**



Leaves whorled in groups of 3 to 6. Each leaf is divided into 14 to 24 leaflets extending from a central reddish brown rib. Form tangled mats on the water surface.

**Parrot Feather**



A type of Milfoil. Leaves whorled in groups of four to six. Each leaf is divided into 18 pairs of thread-like segments resembling a feather.

**Coontail**



Leaves whorled around the stem and have a serrated appearance. Spacing between leaf whorls is variable. Weeds may be long and sparse or bushy.

**Elodea**



Similar to Hydrilla. Leaves whorled in groups of three. Elodea leaves have a smooth edge.

**Hydrilla**



Hydrilla has leaves whorled in groups of three or more. Leaves have a serrated edge with two to three pointed spines on the midrib of the underside.

**Bladderwort**



Finely divided leaves scattered along the stem with numerous bladder-like structures on leaves.

**Horned Pondweed**



Leaves are long and thread-like. Oppositely arranged on the stem unlike other pondweeds.

**Bushy Pondweed**



Leaves are narrow with tiny spines along the edges. Leaves slightly enlarged at the base. Stems slender with frequent branching.

### Leafy Pondweed



Short grass-like leaves that measure one to three inches long and branch freely on a slender stem. Leaves are alternately arranged on the stem.

### Sago Pondweed



Leaves are stiff, narrow and thread-like. Stems branched with leaves alternately arranged on the stem. Spreading leaves resemble a fan with an overall bushy appearance.

### Large-Leaf Pondweed



Leaves are both floating and submersed. Submersed leaves are large, oblong, wavy and taper to the stem.

### Floating-Leaf Pondweed



Leaves are both floating and submersed. Submersed leaves long and narrow. Floating leaves oblong and slightly heart-shaped at the base.

### Curly-Leaf Pondweed



Leaves are thin with wavy and finely serrated edges. Stems are branched. Upper leaves are often crispy and appear waxy.

### Clasping-Leaf Pondweed



Leaves are wide and wavy with smooth edges. Broad leaf base clasps the stem. The upper stem is commonly branched and leafy.

## Emerged Weeds

### Purple Loosestrife



Leaves are slightly heart-shaped at the base, coming to a point at the leaf tip. Leaves are small and more numerous near the tip.

### Water Willow



Leaves are long, narrow and tapered at each end. Branched veins are evident. Edges are smooth.

### Water Primrose



Leaves are lance-shaped with smooth edges. Veins in the leaves are evident. Stems and leaves are hairy.

**Smartweed**



Leaves are oblong and smooth on the edges. Stems are distinctly jointed.

**Bulrush**



Leaves may or may not be present. If present, they appear as a continuation of the stem.

**American Lotus**



Floating leaves are circular with stems attached to the center of the leaf underside.

**Spatterdock**



Leaves are heart-shaped at the base, shiny and smooth. Some leaves float but most stand above the water.

**Cattail**



Leaves are tall and flat. Stems are tall, round and unbranched.

**Water Pennywort**



Leaves are round with low rounded lobes attached at the center to a stem. About the size of a half dollar.

**Water Chestnut**



Submersed leaves are thread-like and far apart on the stem.

**Reed Grass**



Leaves are long and flat with parallel veins. Stems are tall and round with alternately arranged leaves.

## Floating Weeds

**White Water Lily**



Leaves are large, round and slit to the center. Underside of the leaf is often purplish. Stem is below the surface. Roots are thick and fleshy, most often buried in mud.

### Water Shield



Leaves are oval in shape with smooth edges, usually with a rust-colored underside. Stem is attached to the middle of the leaf.

### False Loosestrife



Leaves are both floating and submersed. Oblong and narrow near the stem. Leaves are oppositely attached to the stem, most often in pairs.

### Duckweed



Leaves are the size of a pencil eraser. May be observed individually or in clusters upon close observation. Small root hairs may be seen hanging down from the underside of the leaf.

## Algae

### Filamentous Algae



Individual filaments are a series of cells joined end to end that give a thread-like appearance. Often referred to as pond moss or scum. Forms felt-like surface mats.

### Chara



Leaf-like structures whorled around hollow stem. Dense growth attached, but not rooted to the bottom. May carpet large areas of a lake or pond bottom.

### Planktonic Algae



Microscopic growth is often visible as a greenish tinge suspended in the upper few feet of water.