



Hydrilla Hunter Happenings



October 13, 2017

What you can do about hydrilla in Cayuga Lake during October!



10/19: Take a workshop on using your smartphone to report hydrilla and other invasive species to a statewide map that researchers use to develop control and eradication action plans. *Details below.*



10/21-22 Look for hydrilla along the lake shore.
Drop off bagged suspects at collection points on Oct. 21-22! *See below.*

Very bad news: New Hydrilla Plants Found in Cayuga Lake

Previously unknown hydrilla plants – about twenty – were found in September along Cayuga Lake's Stewart Park shoreline. Two more were found in early October at locations along the southeast and southwest shoreline. Hydrilla expert Bob Johnson and his monitoring team found and reported them during one of their regular surveys.

The US Army Corps of Engineers, which is treating the 26-acre hydrilla infestation along the Aurora shoreline about halfway along the lake's eastern shore, reported in mid-September that they had found a clump of hydrilla growing offshore about a half mile south of the treatment area.

While it's great news that there is no sign of hydrilla at the lake's south end in either Fall Creek or Cayuga Inlet thanks to the treatment programs there since 2011, these new discoveries tell us that hydrilla is loose in the lake. Hydrilla has the potential to completely fill shallow lakeshore areas, making swimming, fishing and boating less enjoyable to impossible.

iMap workshop, October 19: This DEC workshop trains people to use smartphones for locating and reporting invasive species to NYS DEC. October 19, 7-9 pm in 102 Stratton Hall, Wells College, Aurora.

Register here (pre-registration is optional): <http://www.nyimainvasives.org/Training/nyimapschedule/other-trainings/imap-mobile-training-at-wells-college> . Directions to the class are provided at this registration link.

Lakewide Hydrilla Hunt October 21-22: On Saturday October 21 and Sunday October 22, bring hydrilla suspects in plastic baggies marked with location and date, to collecting tables:

- Long Point State Park, 10 am-noon Saturday and Sunday. 2063 Lake Road, Aurora NY 13026.
- Sheldrake Point Public Park, 1:30-3:30 pm Saturday and Sunday. Route 139/Sheldrake Pt. Rd, Ovid NY 14521.

Hints for Hydrilla Hunting: Use a weed rake if you have one. Look in shallow water areas close to shore. In clear shallow water, scan the lake bottom. If you see mounded plants – get a sample! (Safely!) Hydrilla will probably persist until January before dying back for a few months. Then it will re-sprout and continue to spread. Help find it early.

Join the Hydrilla Hunters

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On Cayuga Lake, look for a five-leaf whorl around the center stem, to identify hydrilla. If fewer than five, the plant is probably Elodea, a native species.



Hydrilla verticillata
1996 Kerry Dressler