

Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*)



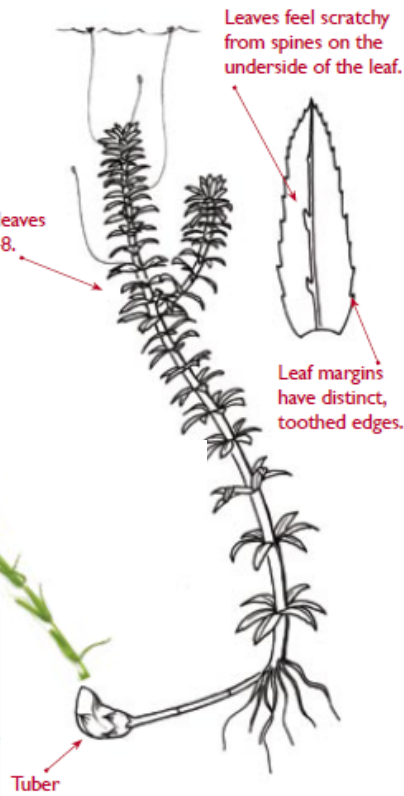
The bad guy

On Cayuga Lake, look for a five-leaf whorl around the central stem.



Other Characteristics:

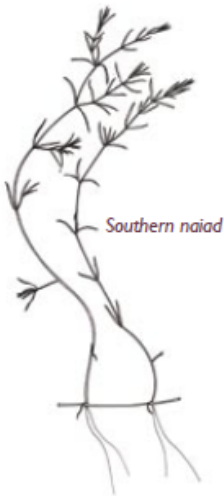
- When pulled from the sediment, tubers might be seen.
- Can grow in deep water up to 20 feet.
- Forms dense beds 2 inches to 20 feet tall.
- Inhabits springs, lakes, marshes, ditches and rivers.



Beneficial lake plants that look like Hydrilla

Southern naiad (*Najas guadalupensis*)

American elodea (*Elodea, spp.*)



Southern naiad



American elodea



Assume Southern naiad if:

- Leaves are narrow, ribbon-like with broad base where they attach to stem.
- Leaves are arranged in pairs on opposite sides of the stem.
- The leaf is tapered with small teeth.
- Leaves are deep-green to purplish-green.

Assume American elodea if:

- Small, lance-shaped leaves in whorls of no more than three.
- Leaves appear and feel smooth.
- Lack of spines on the mid-rib.
- No tubers when pulled from the sediment.

HYDRILLA & Cayuga Lake Information 2018

Hydrilla is an invasive aquatic plant that grows rapidly to form choking green mats in water up to 30 feet deep. Florida and other states spend millions of dollars annually to try to control its spread.

In August 2011, *Hydrilla verticillata* was found in 166 acres of the Cayuga Inlet in Ithaca NY. After 7 years of treatment, hydrilla is apparently absent from the south end of the lake in 2018, but monitoring continues. In August 2016, hydrilla was found in offshore of Aurora, on the lake's east shore.

A treatment program beginning in July 2017 continues there during 2018.

Careful chemical and non-chemical treatment, monitoring, and public vigilance are cornerstones of our lake's hydrilla eradication and monitoring plans.

Information: www.stophydrilla.org

CONCERN: Hydrilla could be spreading up Cayuga Lake and north through Mud Lock, to rivers and other lakes. The Finger Lakes region is at risk.

Hydrilla can fill and choke waterbodies 30 feet deep.

Fish, turtles, boats and people are crowded out by hydrilla.

What You Can Do

Clean, Drain & Dry:

Clean boats before and after each use.

Look for Boat Stewards to help you at public launches and park marinas.

Look for hydrilla along the lakeshore and in ponds and streams.

If you think you have found hydrilla, TAKE A PHOTO and report here: www.stophydrilla.org. Store a sample in a plastic bag in your refrigerator for identification.

Don't remove suspected hydrilla. It will break and spread.

Join the Hydrilla Hunters volunteer scientists group!

- Get a hydrilla i.d. kit.
- Monitor a section of the lakeshore.
- Do rake-toss monitoring.
- Receive each issue of the hydrilla newsletter.

To learn more, contact: steward@cayugalake.org or programs@cayugalake.org

ALL AGES.



The Cayuga Lake Watershed Network is coordinating hydrilla public education and outreach around Cayuga Lake. Thanks for helping! www.cayugalake.org