

Adirondack Invasive Aquatic Plant Database

The Invasive Aquatic Plant database is a centralized, comprehensive database that records the distribution and abundance of invasive aquatic plants in the Adirondack Park. These data include information collected by IAPMP volunteer monitors, as well as documentation provided by other monitoring or plant identification programs operating in the Adirondack Park. Each program uses specific methodology to conduct plant surveys, and the database reflects the range of information available from each program.

Data sources include the Adirondack Invasive Aquatic Plant Volunteer Monitoring Program (IAPVMP), the NYS Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP), the Darrin Fresh Water Institute (DFWI), Paul Smith's Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI), NYS Natural Heritage Program (NHP), lake consultants, lake associations, and academic institutions.

Only lakes surveyed for invasive aquatic plants are entered into the database. Definitions of different measurements taken during plant surveys (displayed in the data table on the website) and methodological variations are described below.

Every field (category) allows the value of "Unknown" to be applied. When this value is applied to fields for a site where invasive aquatic plants were observed, it signifies that information was not collected or not available. When the value is applied to fields for a site where **no invasive aquatic plants were observed, it signifies that the measurements are not applicable in situations where no infestations exist.

POND LOCATION INFORMATION

Pond Number	:	Unique numeric code for waterbodies assigned by Adirondack Lakes Survey Corporation
County	:	Name of County where waterbody is located
Town	:	Name of Town where waterbody is located
Quad Name	:	Name of USGS 7.5 minute quad where waterbody is located
NYTMN	:	New York Transverse Mercator northing
NYTME	:	New York Transverse Mercator easting

SURVEY DATA

- Program** : Name of program that contributed the survey data.
- AIAPVMP = Adirondack Invasive Aquatic Plant
Volunteer Monitoring Program
- CSLAP = Department of Environmental
Conservation Citizens Statewide Lake
Assessment Program, Plant Survey
Program
- DFWI = Darrin Fresh Water Institute, Plant
Identification Program
- AWI = Paul Smith's Adirondack Watershed
Institute
- NHP = Natural Heritage Program
- LACO = Lake Consultants
- LAAS = Lake Associations
- ACRE = Academic Research
- OTH = Other
- Date** : The date of the plant survey.
- Shoreline Survey** : Description of the area surveyed within the
waterbody.
- AIAPVMP surveys are conducted by boating the
perimeter of the waterbody and searching for invasive
aquatic plants. Volunteer monitors mark on a map the
shoreline they surveyed.
- Entire = All primary shoreline surveyed
- Partial = Specific portions of shoreline
surveyed
- Unknown = Area surveyed was not recorded or is
unavailable
- No survey = No survey conducted
- Station** : Station numbers are used to identify individual
infestations of an invasive aquatic plant species
within a waterbody.

Station continued****Exceptions****

1. Where an entire waterbody is infested with an invasive species:

Station number	= 01
Species	= Eurasian watermilfoil, Curlyleaf, pondweed, Water chestnut, Fanwort, OR Variable leaf watermilfoil
Station area	= Entire

2. Where an invasive aquatic plant species is confirmed in a waterbody but the number of infestations and the location(s) in the waterbody was not recorded or is unavailable:

Program Affiliation	= Any program except AIAPVMP
Station number	= 01
Species	= Eurasian watermilfoil, Curlyleaf, pondweed, Water chestnut, Fanwort, OR Variable leaf watermilfoil
Abundance, Station area, Species #, Depth and Substrate	= Unknown

3. Where a survey has been conducted and the waterbody is free of infestation (no invasive aquatic plant species have been documented):

Station number	= 01
Species	= None observed

Species

: The invasive aquatic plant species observed. Invasive aquatic plant species of concern in the Adirondack Park include:

Eurasian watermilfoil
Curlyleaf pondweed
Water chestnut
Fanwort

Species continued

Variable-leaf watermilfoil has been observed in several locations and is noted as an invasive in other New England states, thus we are including it as a species to watch in the Adirondack Park.

None Observed = no invasive aquatic plant species were observed during the survey.

Abundance

: Abundance of an infestation may be measured by using a range of methods including qualitative sight estimation, semi-quantitative rake throws, and quantitative stem counts by snorkeling or scuba diving.

IAPVMP and CSLAP estimate abundance by the amount of plants covering the rake tines from three rake throws at varying locations. IAPVMP monitors boat along the shoreline and perform rake throws anywhere along the perimeter of the shoreline. CSLAP monitors perform three rake throws at three sampling locations chosen by the monitor along a transect perpendicular to the shoreline.

Abundance measurements include:

Abundant	= invasive plants cover most rake tines (>50% coverage) in each rake throw at site
Moderate	= invasive plants cover some rake tines (25-50% coverage) in each throw at the site
Scarce	= invasive plants found on rake tines in only one or two of the throws or only a few scattered plants on the tines in all throws
Unknown	= Abundance information was not collected or is unavailable.

Plant fragment = a floating plant fragment was observed in the water

Station Area

: Estimation of total square area in feet of the size of each station's infestation.

AIAPVMP monitors measure the size of their watercraft and use this as a reference when estimating the size of the infestation.

Station Area continued

< 100 square feet
 100-500
 500-1000
 1000-2000
 2000-4000
 6000-10000
 > 10000

Entire = entire waterbody is infested
 Unknown = size of the infestation was not recorded or is unavailable

Species #

: The number of different aquatic plant species occurring at each station infestation.

In areas where invasives are observed, the number of different species growing there is measured.

AIAPVMP and CSLAP monitors use a rake to survey for invasive aquatic plants. After each rake throw, the plants are separated by species then counted (number includes the invasive species). This number will help to assess any changes in species composition of infested areas.

0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, >5, UN

UN = unknown = number of species was not recorded or is unavailable.

Depth

: The depth in feet where the infestation occurs. Depth may be measured by lowering a weighted rope marked in feet or by using an electronic depth finder.

0-5 ft
 5-10 ft
 10-15 ft
 15-20 ft
 > 20 ft

Unknown = depth was not recorded or is unavailable.

Substrate

: The substrate texture at each station. Assessment made by viewing the lake bottom from the watercraft or by determining the type of material deposited on the anchor or rake.

Substrate continued

Unknown = substrate was not recorded or is
unavailable.

Sand
Rock
Debris
Mud
Other

For additional information contact

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