

Invasive Species at Otty Lake



What makes a species invasive?

Not all introduced species are invasive. Invasives are a concern because they have “displacement capacity” meaning they form such dense colonies or compete so aggressively, that they force out native species. (Adapted from Credit Valley Conservation –A Quick Reference Guide to Invasive Species)

Invasive Species found and to watch for in the Otty Lake watershed:

Insects

Here: **Emerald Ash Borer** *Agrilus planipennis*
Multi-coloured Asian Beetle AKA Multi-coloured Asian Ladybug *Harmonia axyridis*
Watch for: **Asian long-horned Beetle** *Anoplophora glabripennis*

Trees

Here: **Manitoba maple** *Acer negundo*
Norway maple *Acer platanoides*
European or black alder *Alnus glutinosa*
European (Common) Buckthorn *Rhamnus cathartica*

Shrubs and Vines

Here: **Non-native bush honeysuckles** *Lonicera spp.*
Watch for: **Dog - Strangling vine** *Cynanchum rossicum & C. nigrum*

Plants

Here: **English ivy** *Hedera helix*
Periwinkle *Vinca minor*
wild parsnip *Pastinaca sativa*
Watch for: **Garlic mustard** *Alliaria petiolate*
Giant hogweed *Heracleum mantegazzianum*

Wetland plants

Here: **Common reed** *Phragmites australis*
Yellow iris *Iris pseudacorus*

Aquatic plants

Here: **Eurasian water-milfoil** *Myriophyllum spicatum*
European frog-bit *Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*
Watch for: **Flowering Rush** *Butomus umbellatus*
Water Soldier *Stratiotes aloides*

Aquatic Invertebrates

Here: **Zebra Mussels** *Dreissena polymorpha*
Banded Mussels *Viviparus cf. georgianus*
Watch for: **Spiny Waterflea** *Bythotrephes longimanus*
Rusty Crayfish *Orconectes rusticus*

Fish

Watch for: **Asian carps (Silver carp, Bighead carp, Grass carp, Black carp)**

More Information

Information on the above species can be found on these websites:

- <http://www.invadingspecies.com/resources/publications/>
- <http://foca.on.ca/ais-monitoring-program/>

Some watch cards are included in this summer information package.

Tips for Waterfront Property Owners.

Adapted from FOCA's Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention & Monitoring Program

1. Learn about the aquatic invasive species (AIS) and their locations on your lake. Steer clear of aquatic invasive plant patches with your boat or personal watercraft to avoid spreading them further.
2. Inspect your boat, motor, and boating equipment regularly and remove any visible AIS. Rinse your boat, motor and trailer with hot or pressurized water, before launching into another body of water.
3. Never release live bait into Ontario waters, or move aquatic species from one waterbody into another. It is illegal to use gobies, Eurasian ruffe or rudd for bait. Never introduce any fish or plants into any body of water (e.g. aquarium plants and animals or live fish purchased from a store).
4. Removing aquatic vegetation from around your dock or waterfront responsibly, as aquatic vegetation is important for lake/river habitat. Removed plants, animals or mud can be disposed of in the garbage, or on land at least 30 metres from any waterbody.
5. Plant native or non-invasive plants when gardening and resist planting ornamental plants that are aggressive or invasive on your property.
6. Maintain a natural shoreline on your property to encourage habitat and reduce shoreline erosion.
7. If you identify AIS on your lake or waterbody, report them using the Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System (EDDMapS) Ontario. You can also call the Invading Species hotline at 1-800-563-7711 or visit www.invadingspecies.com.