



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County

Invasive Species Identification Cards

**Invasive species threaten
water quality, native organisms,
habitat, agriculture, and biodiversity.
While it is difficult to eradicate an
infestation, it is easy to prevent one.
You can help!**

*If you think you have found an invasive species,
please contact CCE of Onondaga County at
Onondaga@Cornell.edu,
or by phone at (315) 424 - 9485.*



European Frogbit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*)



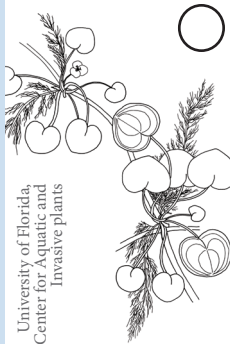
Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County

Heart-shaped leaves with rounded lobes are green on top, purplish-red underneath

Leaves measure 1/2 to 2 inches across

Single white 3-petalled flower

Broad arching lateral veins



University of Florida,
Center for Aquatic and
Invasive plants

Water Chestnut (*Trapa natans*)



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County



Distinctive floating rosettes ○

Leaves are waxy on top, hairy on underside

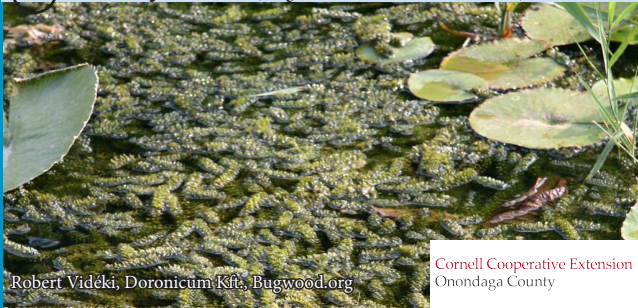
Produces thorny, floating 4-pointed nutlets, which start out green and become dark brown

Can grow in water up to 16 ft deep

Prefers slow-moving waters



Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*)



Robert Vidéki, Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County



Lance-shaped leaves in
whorls of 4-8 around the stem

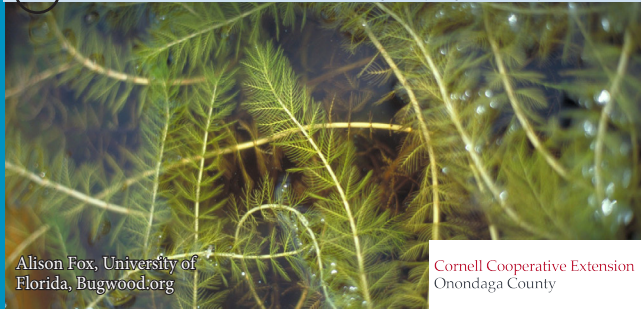


Leaf margins have distinctly
toothed edges

Leaves feel scratchy due to small
spines on underside

Can grow in water up to 20 feet
deep

○ Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)



Alison Fox, University of
Florida, Bugwood.org

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County

Robert Johnson,
Cornell University



Shoots near water surface
are reddish-brown



Feather-like leaves fall limp
when removed from the water

Leaves are blunt-ended - as if
they were cut with scissors

Whorls of 3 - 6 leaves

Inhabits lakes, rivers, ponds



Curly-Leaved Pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*)



Chris Evans, Illinois Wildlife
Action Plan, Bugwood.org

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County



Leaves are about 3 in. long,
oblong, reddish-green in color

Wavy edges of leaves resemble
lasagna noodles, less pronounced
in spring

Flat, reddish-brown stem

Leaves feel crispy to the touch





Asian Clam (*Corbicula fluminea*)



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County

Adults are typically less than 1 inch in diameter

Oval triangular shape

Thick concentric ridges on outer surface

Shell is yellowish to brown, inside is white to light purple

Prefer sandy- or muddy-bottomed waterbodies



U.S. Geological Survey
Archive, U.S. Geological
Survey, Bugwood.org



Spiny Waterflea (*Bythotrephes longimanus*)

Photo by Tleilaxu, BugGuide.net



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County

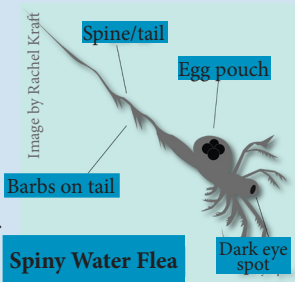
Form fluffy, whitish clumps on boating equipment and fishing line

Adult length less than 1/2 in.

Long, sharp, barbed tail spine, dark eye spot

Transported through bilge, livewells, equipment, bait

Eggs can survive out of water several days





Parrotfeather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)

Graves Lovell, Alabama Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources, Bugwood.org



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County

Top of plants stick out of the water, look like tiny fir trees

Leaves are bright blue-green, stiff, arranged in whorls of 4 - 6

Stems are woody, can grow over 5 feet long

Prefers slow-moving waters



Robert Johnson,
Cornell University



Zebra and Quagga Mussels (*Dreissena spp.*)

Amy Benson, U.S. Geological Survey,
Bugwood.org



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County

Bands of alternating light/dark color,
on triangular, brittle shell

Adults reach 1 to 2 inches
length, juveniles and eggs too
small to see

Often found together

Zebra sits on a flat ventral
surface, Quagga is rounded



Zebra Mussel
(*Dreissena polymorpha*)



Quagga Mussel
(*Dreissena bugensis*)

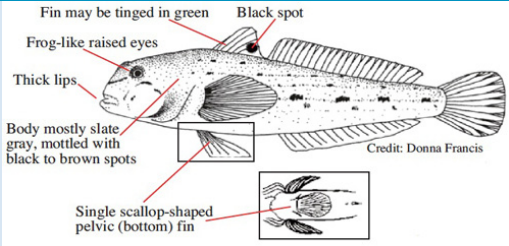


○ Round Goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*)



Nate Tessler

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County

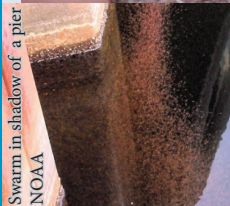


Typically about 5 inches long, though can reach 10 in

Bottom fins are fused to form a single suction-cup fin

○ Bloody Red Shrimp (*Hemimysis anomala*)

Dan Minchin



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County



Less than 1/2 inch long



Reddish to pale orange color

Prefer hard-bottomed, slow-moving waters

Can be seen swarming in shadows of boats or piers

Sometimes found in stomach of freshly caught fish