

When in doubt, take the **NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS**

FOR TERRESTRIAL PLANTS:

- Be mindful of potential propagation when using outdoor equipment (camping gear, clothing, ATV, etc.).
- Choose non-invasive species for landscaping.
- Eliminate invasive plants before seeds are produced by removing all root systems or rhizomes, taking extra care not to break the structures.
- Do not move invasive species or soils they have come in contact with, especially if seeds have formed.
- Dry plants thoroughly before discarding or burning them.
- Use gloves and long-sleeved clothing as a precaution when traveling or working in forested areas, fields or roadside ditches.

FOR AQUATIC SPECIES:

- Clean boats and all equipment used.
- Do not empty an aquarium into the toilet or in water bodies.

PLEASE NOTE that mobile washing stations are available for use by the public in the region.
Visit our Web site: www.creat08.ca

HAVE YOU SEEN AN IAS?



The Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment and Climate Change has created an easy-to-use, Web-based reporting tool called **SENTINELLE** (available in French only). The mobile application can be downloaded for smartphones.

Sentinelle allows you to:

- report an IAS sighting;
- access a map of reported sightings;
- consult fact sheets for species to look out for.

INSPECT and CLEAN all nautical equipment **BEFORE** and **AFTER** each use

INSPECT everything that has been in contact with water and remove plants, visible debris and mud.

EMPTY OUT the water that has accumulated in the boat, live wells, motor, bilge, coolers, etc.

CLEAN the boat and all equipment with a pressure washer to dislodge all organisms without damaging the boat or equipment.

OR
Dry all equipment for at least five days.



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CONTACT US at 819 762-5770 or at info@creat08.ca

INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES in **ABITIBI-TÉMISCAMINGUE**



Funded by:

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Lac Osisko overrun by Eurasian water-milfoil
© Bibiane Racette

What is an INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES?

Invasive Alien Species (IAS) are generally introduced into a new environment by humans. They compete with native species and proliferate to the detriment of these by modifying the natural ecosystem in which they are introduced. The voluntary or accidental introduction of IAS therefore constitutes a threat to biodiversity.

What are the possible IMPACTS?

The presence of IAS on the territory can result in **considerable environmental, social and economic impacts**: loss of value of homes on shorelines, boating and swimming hazards, loss of biodiversity and impacts on human health, reduced quality of sport fishing, which affects tourism revenue, etc.

LEGEND

- Invasive alien species**
- Native species**
- Species present in Abitibi-Temiscamingue**
- Risk of skin reactions** when coming into contact with toxic sap

AQUATIC species



ROUND GOBY
Neogobius melanostomus
General characteristics:

- Small freshwater fish (8 to 15 cm) that can reach 25 cm in length.
- Prominent globular eyes, round head.

- Black spot on the first dorsal fin.
- Grayish body with brown and black spots.
- Its fused pelvic fins allow it to remain suctioned to rocks.

Like the juvenile Asian carp, the goby is found in the live wells of commercial boats and can be sold as baitfish. These species are a threat to biodiversity because of their voracity, their ability to reproduce rapidly and their elevated risk of transporting pathogens.

The following rules apply:

- The use of **live baitfish** is prohibited throughout the province of **Québec**.
- The use of **dead baitfish** is **prohibited** during **summer** throughout the province of Québec.
- The use of **dead baitfish** is **authorized** during **winter** in certain fishing zones in Québec where this practice was already *.

*See regulations for details.

AQUATIC species



EURASIAN WATER-MILFOIL
Myriophyllum spicatum
General characteristics:

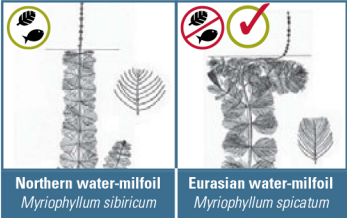
- Perennial aquatic plant submerged and visible on the surface of the water.
- Whorls composed of three to six leaves, feather-like appearance.
- Leaves divided and composed of twelve to twenty-four pairs of leaflets, the end of which appears to be truncated.
- Flowers in spikes on the emergent stems, very red buds (flowering in July).
- Can be distinguished from native water milfoil species by its tendency to have leaves grouped much closer together, by the presence of soft leaves that are out of water and by its higher abundance of leaflets.
- A particularly strong stem that reproduces quickly, which can make swimming and aquatic recreational activities extremely unpleasant or even perilous.

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A single small fragment is enough for a new colony of Eurasian water-milfoil to invade a lake.

Similar specie



Source:
Crow, G. E., et C. B. Hellquist (2000). Aquatic and Wetland Plants of Northeastern North America.



SPINY WATERFLEA
Bythotrephes longimanus
General characteristics:

- Small crustacean with a long pointed tail dotted with thorns.
- The presence of one female is sufficient to colonize a new body of water.
- Reproduces sexually and asexually (clones).
- Can stick to fishing lines.
- Eggs are resistant to cold, dryness and even to ingestion by prey; they can be dormant during winter.
- Present in some lakes in Ontario located near the border (Larder, Raven, Nipissing and Temagami lakes).

© Emily DeBoit

Source: J. Lindgren



Rapid breeding and low predation rates enable this crustacean to compete directly with zooplankton and small fish.

Fishhook waterflea
(Cercopagis pengoi)

TERRESTRIAL species



COMMON REED
Phragmites australis
General characteristics:

- Wetland plant (marshes, ditches, road rights-of-way).
- Can grow up to 5-m tall and form dense colonies.
- Rigid and hollow erect stems, beige or yellowish in color, often hidden by leaf sheath.
- Alternated, pointed and elongated leaves (20 to 60 cm in length).
- Purple-colored feathery panicle flowers that become brownish during fructification.
- Presence of white hairs where the base of the leaf attaches to the stem (ligule).

© Sam Karathanos, IRBV

The Common reed has gradually replaced the cattail, which has the ability to filter polluting metals found in drained water more efficiently.

Similar species



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JAPANESE KNOTWEED
Fallopia japonica
General characteristics:

- Fast growing herbaceous plant, up to 4 m in height.
- Reddish stem that resembles bamboo.
- Small clusters of white flowers.
- Root system releases toxins that are harmful to other species.
- Resistant to difficult conditions: can grow everywhere, even on asphalt.

When their stems fall to the ground in late winter, they form clumps at the water's edge that prevent native stabilizing plants from settling on the shorelines, which can cause bank erosion.



© Owen Williams

Exposure to sap can cause severe skin rashes, blisters or burns that can leave scars. If the sap comes in contact with the eyes, it may cause temporary or permanent blindness.

GIANT HOGWEED
Heracleum mantegazzianum
General characteristics:

- Giant herbaceous plant that measures 2 to 5 m in height.
- Present in fields, wastelands and disturbed, wet and riparian environments.
- Umbels of white flowers, 30 to 60 cm in width, > 50 spokes.
- The stem is hollow and fluted, with spots varying from raspberry red to purple, with some long scattered hairs.
- Leaves divided into one to three leaflets that are heavily lobed and dentate, with a smooth underside or some scattered hairs.
- Distinguished from the cow parsnip (abundantly hairy) by its height, its generous inflorescence and the presence of scattered hairs on the stem and the underside of the leaves.

Similar species



© Kriss de Niro

© minihetherium

© Ontario's Invasive Species Awareness Program

*Please note that some people may also react to the sap of the cow parsnip.



© Ontario's Invasive Species Awareness Program

WILD PARSNIP
Pastinaca sativa
General characteristics:

- Terrestrial herbaceous plant that also tolerates wetlands.
- Grows on the edge of forests, roads, trails and vacant lots, or on shorelines.
- Umbels of yellowish flowers 10 to 20 cm in diameter.
- Is recognizable by its smell, the shape of its leaves and its yellow flowers.

Exposure to sap can cause severe skin rashes, blisters or burns that can leave scars. If the sap comes in contact with the eyes, it may cause temporary or permanent blindness.

Similar species



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