

Lakes Association of Norway

Aquatic Invasive Plant Screening Surveys



2025

L a k e & W a t e r s h e d

Resource Management Associates

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This report summarizes the findings of the invasive aquatic plant screening surveys conducted over a period extending from 8/8/25 to 10/24/25, by Lake & Watershed Associates for the Lakes Association of Norway.

LWA has been conducting comprehensive (level-3) Aquatic Invasive Plant screening surveys on the lakes of Norway, Maine since 2002. In 2025 LWA associates were only able to perform level-3 surveys on Lake Pennesseewassee and the North Pond boat landing dam pond only.

North Pond, Sand Pond and Hobbs Pond will be prioritized in 2026.

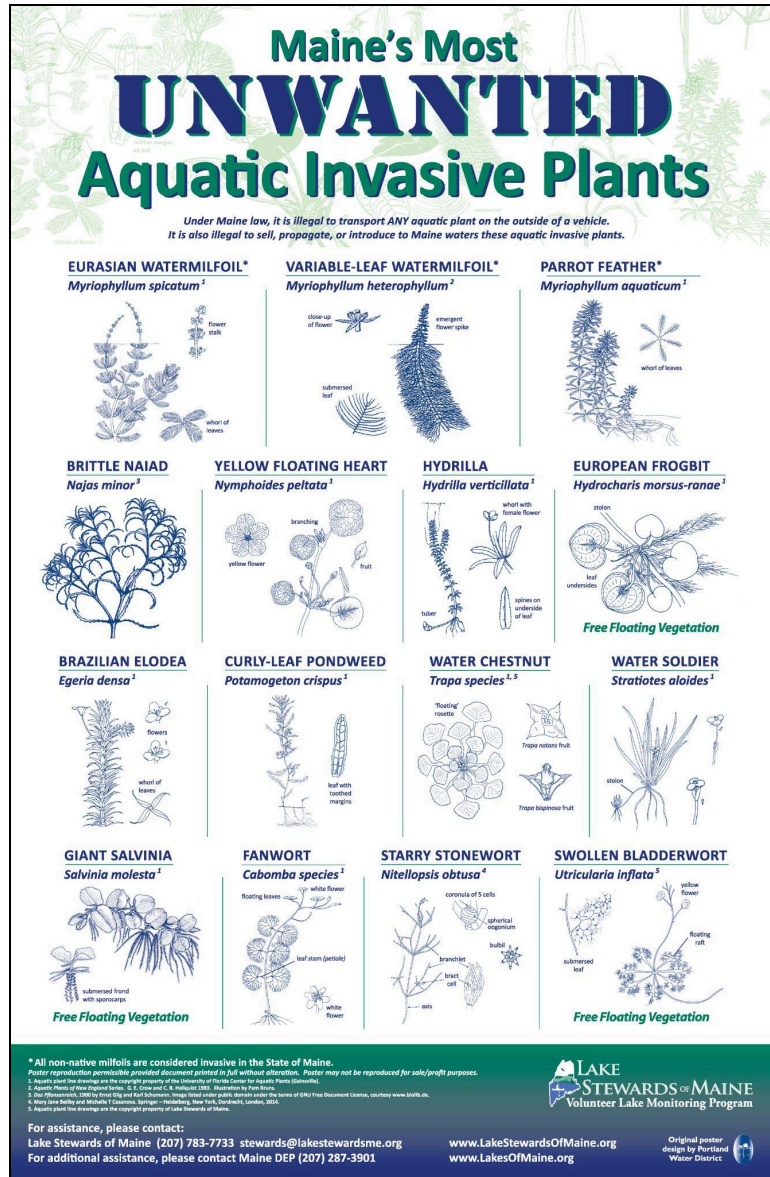


The north end of Lake Pennesseewassee is almost entirely littoral. Largely unseen from the surface, a diverse carpet of submersed aquatic plants cover the lake floor throughout this area

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

None of the Aquatic Invasive Plants (AIP) listed by Maine law as imminent threat to the waters of Maine were observed in Lake Pennesseewassee or the North Pond Landing Dam Pond in 2025

The list of prohibited plants in Maine is listed on this poster available from Lake Stewards of Maine



Observed species of concern:

***Iris pseudocorus* (yellow iris)** - first noted in 2012, continues to be present in previously identified locations along the shore of Lake Pennesseewassee. This tall, showy, yellow iris is listed by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, as one of thirty-three “likely-invasive” terrestrial plants that are illegal to sell, import, export, buy or intentionally propagate in Maine.

***Lyrthrum salicaria* (purple loosestrife) - was noticed for the first time in 2021, growing in a patch of floating bog associated with the small pond adjacent to the Lake Store south of Route 118.**

Scattered individual loosestrife plants, though not extensive, continue to be present in this area (N44.21015/W70.57780). Removing seed heads from the plants annually and properly disposing of them is one way to slow the spread of this invasive wetland plant in the area.

***Myosotis scorpiodes* (water forget-me-not) - is still present along the shore of a small cove in sector 12 and scattered throughout the tributary stream in sector 14.** According to [Go-Botany](#), water forget-me-not is “native to . . . Eurasia. It has naturalized in many wet places in North America and is considered invasive in some New England states.” This plant is on Maine’s “Advisory List,” meaning it’s a plant of concern that doesn’t quite meet the statutory guidelines to qualify as “invasive.”

As in past years, **Chinese mystery snails were observed in abundance in Lake Pennessewassee.**

All native plants observed during the surveys were recorded by LWA. The field sheets are attached to this report.

Other observations of note:

In the twenty-three years we have had the pleasure of surveying the Norway Lakes, we have never seen the water levels so low on Lake Pennessewassee. In this photo, the boundary between the lighter and darker gray bands roughly indicates the normal water level in the lake.





The low water levels due to the drought made it impossible to survey as deeply into the wetlands as usual, and made for “tough sledding” elsewhere.



This photo of a polystyrene float was taken on Lake Pennesseewassee. As polystyrene floats break down, the tiny “microplastic” pellets are ingested by fish, turtles, birds and other aquatic creatures, causing intestinal blockages, starvation, and internal damage. Polystyrene also releases toxic chemical leachates into the water, affecting fish reproduction, and growth. The State of Washington (and Camden Maine) currently ban the use of unencapsulated polystyrene in lakes.



High water temperatures and low water levels likely contributed to the extensive algal mats in the ponded area adjacent to the Lake Store.

Below is a summary of the 2021 survey activity. For more detail, please see the attached AIP Screening Survey Documentation Forms.

WATERBODY	DATE/S OF 2023 SURVEY	SURVEY TEAM MEMBERS	AIP OBSERVED? Y/N	# NATIVE PLANT SPECIES OBSERVED
Lake Pennessewassee	Aug 8, Sept 12 & 26, Oct 2 & 10	Roberta Hill; Keith Williams	N* <i>* Please see above for noted plant species of concern</i>	59
North Pond/ Public Boat Landing Dam Pond	Oct 24	Roberta Hill; Keith Williams	N	17

Thank you once again for entrusting Lake & Watershed with this work. We continue to be honored and delighted to have the opportunity to work on behalf of Norway's beautiful lakes.

Respectfully,



Roberta Hill
Principal, Aquatic Ecologist
Lake & Watershed Resource Management Associates

