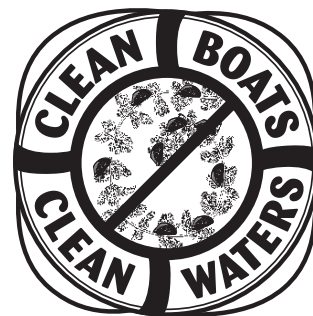


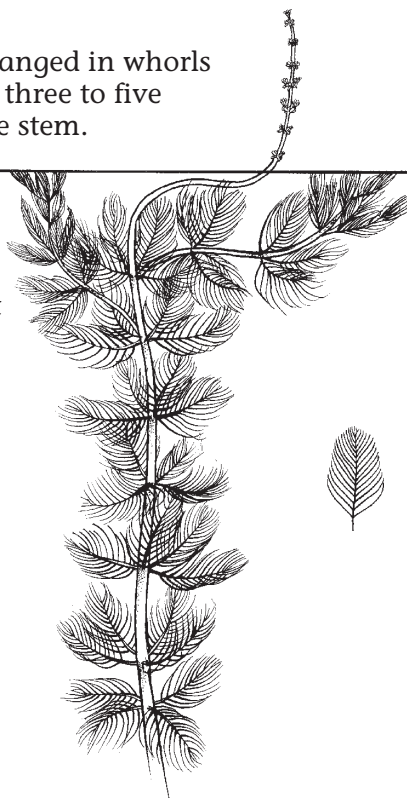
# Recognizing Eurasian Water-milfoil and Native Look-a-Likes

Eurasian water milfoil is one of eight water-milfoil species found in Wisconsin and the only one that is not native. The most common native water-milfoil in Wisconsin lakes is northern water-milfoil. It bears a strong resemblance to Eurasian water-milfoil and identification between the two plants can be difficult. Using this guide helps to distinguish Eurasian water-milfoil from similar native aquatic plants.



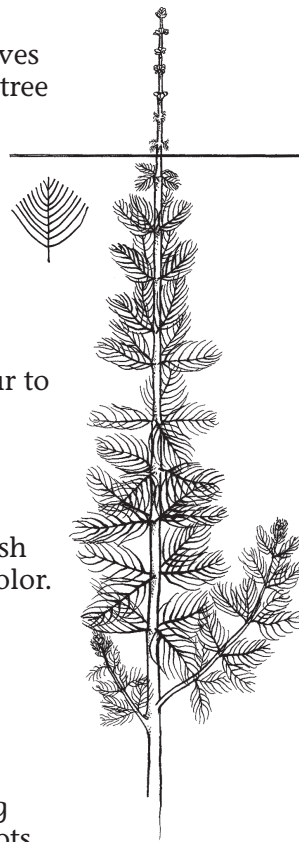
## Eurasian Water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)

- Delicate feather-like leaves. Leaflets are mostly the same length.
- Leaves are usually limp when out of the water.
- Leaves arranged in whorls (circles) of three to five around the stem.
- Usually twelve to twenty-one leaflet pairs per leaf.
- Long spaghetti-like stems.



## Northern Water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum sibericum*)

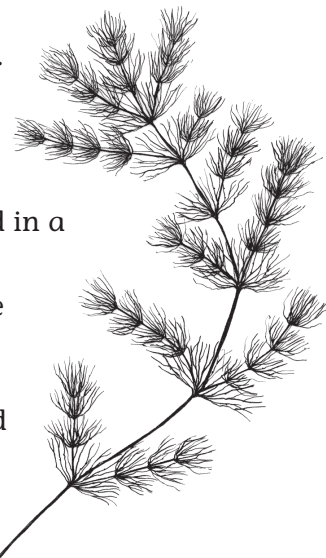
- Rigid feather-like leaves forming a christmas tree shape. The lower leaflets are usually quite long.
- Leaves usually stiff when out of water.
- Leaves arranged in whorls (circles) of four to six around stem.
- Usually seven to ten leaflet pairs per leaf.
- Stem is usually whitish or whitish green in color.



## Coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*)

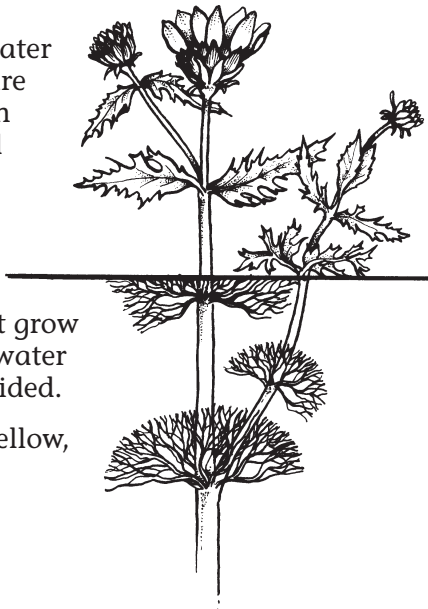
Coontail is a free-floating aquatic plant without roots. It may be completely submersed or partially floating on the surface.

- The leaves are stiff and arranged in whorls.
- Each leaf is divided in a forked pattern.
- Leaf divisions have teeth along one margin.
- Leaves are crowded toward the tip of the stem creating the "coontail" appearance.



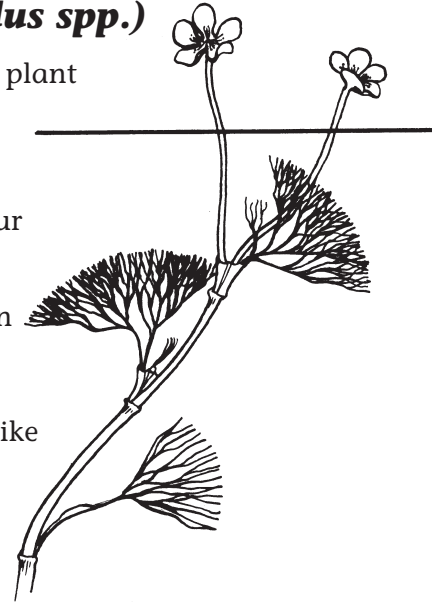
## Water Marigold (*Megalodonta beckii*)

- Submersed leaves of water marigold are arranged in whorls and cut into many thread-like divisions.
- Leaves that grow above the water are not divided.
- Produces yellow, daisy-like flowers.



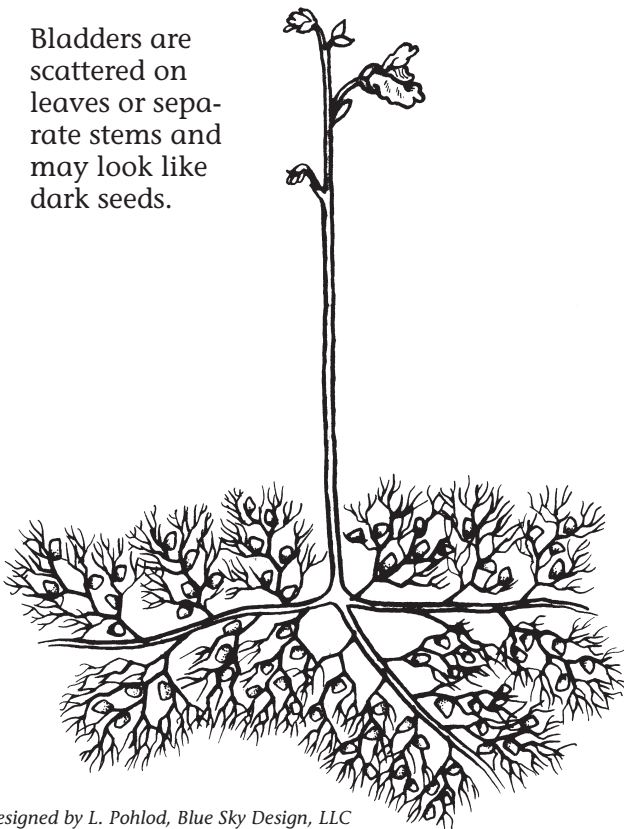
## Water Crowfoot (*Ranunculus spp.*)

- Submersed plant with finely divided leaves.
- Leaves occur alternately along the stem, not in whorls.
- Small buttercup-like flowers are produced that stick up out of the water.



## Common Bladderwort (*Utricularia vulgaris*)

- Submersed plant with finely divided leaves.
- Leaves are arranged alternately on the stem.
- Most distinct characteristic is the presence of “bladders” or sacs to capture small animal life.
- Bladders are scattered on leaves or separate stems and may look like dark seeds.



## Common Waterweed, Elodea (*Elodea canadensis*)

- Submersed plant with slender stems.
- Small lance-shaped leaves attach directly to the stem.
- Leaves are in whorls of three, or occasionally two near the stem tips.



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