# Myriophyllum spicatum

Eurasian Watermilfoil, Spike Watermilfoil

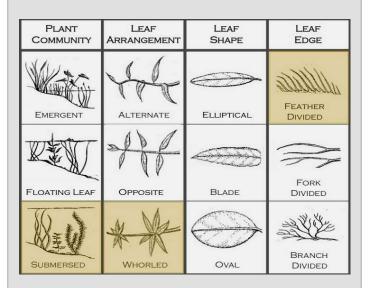
## **Invasive to Maine**

Freshwater Ponds and Lakes

#### Leaves



Look for leaves that look like feathers. The feather-divided leaves are in whorls (see leaf chart). There are 3 to 6 whorls on each stem and a 1 to 3 cm space separating each whorl.



#### **Plant**



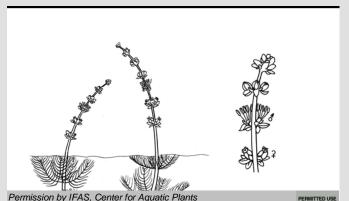
Look for a plant growing completely underwater with lots of feathery branches. Eurasian watermilfoil is most often found in water close 3.5 to 5 m deep.

#### **Stem**



Look for stems with lots of branches. Stems are reddishbrown to pinkish-white and grow up to 3 m in length.

### **Seasonal Change**



In July and August look for flower spikes with whorls (see diagram above) of tiny red flowers rising above the water.

## **Similar Species**

Eurasian watermilfoil has up to 24 pairs of leaflets per leaf! None of our native milfoils have more than 14 pairs of leaflets. If you count more than 14, you have probably found an invasive milfoil. If you count more than 18, you have probably found Eurasian watermilfoil! Best bet, look for flowers!!

#### Did You Know?

Eurasian watermilfoil - like many aquatic plants - has the incredible ability to grow a whole new plant from tiny pieces that have broken off (fragmentation)! If these tiny pieces get caught in boat propellers, they can easily travel to new places. Not so fun for Maine lakes.

If you think you found this species, call Maine's Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program: 207-783-7733 OR Department of Environmental Protection: 1-800-452-1942



