

Invasive Species Alert

European Frog-bit

(*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*)

Has been reported in Michigan waters

Identification:

- Single white flower with 3 round petals and a yellow center
- Free floating or sometimes rooted in shallow water
- Leaves are kidney-shaped to heart-shaped with a purple-red underside
- Leaves form a rosette



Habitat: Habitat includes slow moving rivers, sheltered inlets, ponds, and ditches. Preference is given to waters rich in calcium with no wave action.

Native Range: Europe, Asia, Africa

U.S. Distribution: European frog-bit is established in Washington and has been recorded in New York, Vermont, and Michigan.



Local Concern: Mats of European frog-bit can grow so thick that they impede boat traffic and movement of large fish and diving ducks. Large mats prevent nutrients and light from reaching submerged vegetation. When the mats die off in the fall, the resulting decrease in oxygen can cause fish and other organisms to die.



Resources for more information:

Oakland County Cisma website
oaklandinvasivespecies.org/european-frog-bit/

Hello,

We are contacting you from the Oakland County Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (OC CISMA - tinyurl.com/CISMA-staff). We have recently discovered a new aquatic invasive plant species in your area called European frog-bit. First observed in Michigan in 1996, this species has now been positively identified in multiple retention ponds in your area. This invasive species has adverse impacts on recreation and on native plants and animals. We have been working over the last few years to determine the full extent of the invasion and the next steps for preventing further spread, including treatment.

To maintain environmental quality and public health and safety, Oakland County Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area is working with local governments and private landowners to treat the invasive plant in retention ponds and wetlands in your area from **July through September 2025**.

Areas for treatment include Oakland County primary, and locations in and near Novi and Novi Township.

The contractor listed below will perform the European Frog-bit treatment and can be contacted with questions about the chemical products used and method of application:

- PLM Lake and Land Management Corp, 10785 Bennett Drive, Morrice, MI 48857, 800-382-4434, www.plmcorp.net

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) permitting restrictions, national holidays and/or weather conditions may influence the timing of treatments. The treatment schedule is approximate. Please watch your property if you are adjacent to planned treatment areas for the posting of the 8.5x11 inch, yellow signs. The signs will indicate the date of the treatment, the products used and any restrictions on the use of treated property.

Herbicides that may be applied and the associated use restrictions are listed below. On the day of treatment, signs will be posted that indicate what products were used and specific restrictions that apply:

Herbicides Planned for Use on European frog-bit:

Propeller (flumioxazin)

Method of Application:

All applications will be foliar spray applied by hand spray gun equipment or backpack spray equipment. The herbicide will be tank mixed.

Re-Entry Restrictions:

Do not enter treated areas until after 12 hours from application end time.

This advance notification is a requirement that a commercial applicator must make before a broadcast or foliar application of pesticides for community or pest management to persons who own or reside on property that is within the target area or to their authorized representatives. Prior notification shall be provided by the commercial applicator or his or her agent.

The chemicals used for Aquatic Nuisance Control are registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Michigan Department of Agriculture. The potential for damage to fish and other nontarget organisms is minimal when the product is used as directed on the product label and the permit.

To minimize the possible effects on health and the environment, the treated area is restricted as noted above.

For more information, contact Oakland County Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area by phone at (248)882-8643; or by e-mail at canniffp@oakgov.com.