

# EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL



## STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!™

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.  
Clean all recreational equipment.  
[www.ProtectYourWaters.net](http://www.ProtectYourWaters.net)



### If you see this plant contact:

Tim D'Amato  
Boulder County  
Parks and Open Space  
303-678-6110



Top 3 pictures are courtesy of The Lake George Association, Lake George, NY

Don't let this happen  
to your water!

Be on the lookout for  
Eurasian watermilfoil!

Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) is an invasive species in the Front Range and has been found from St. Vrain State Park in Longmont south to Chatfield State Park in Littleton. It is known to be in Boulder, Jefferson, Denver and Weld Counties.

## Why control Eurasian watermilfoil?

EWM forms dense mats which impair all forms of water-based recreation, including boating, fishing and swimming. These dense mats rapidly destroy freshwater wildlife habitat by displacing native vegetation and disrupting the food chain. EWM negatively effects water quality by altering water chemistry. EWM slows the flow of water in irrigation ditches and canals. The standing water created by EWM is ideal mosquito habitat.



Photo courtesy of Joe DiTomasso, U.C. Davis

## How to Identify Eurasian watermilfoil:

- EWM is a submerged aquatic plant that grows in shallow waters.
- EWM has long, branching stems gathered near the surface with soft feathery leaves.
- **Leaves are attached in whorls of four and have 11-21 pairs of leaflets which are closely spaced.**
- Leaves appear limp out of water.



Photo courtesy of Joe DiTomasso, U.C. Davis

## HELP: Prevent the spread of Eurasian watermilfoil:

- Inspect and remove all visible mud, plants and animals before leaving any body of water.
- Rinse your boats, boat trailers, personal watercrafts and any equipment that came into contact with the water after takeout and before you put-in at another water. Use hot water (above 104°F) to rinse boats and equipment. If hot water is not available, use salt water or a high pressure rinse.
- Drain water from motors, live wells and bait containers before leaving the water.
- If you can't rinse, dry your gear (boots, waders, water skis, fishing poles) for at least 6 days.
- Do **NOT** release any unwanted aquarium plants or animals into any body of water.