Invasive, Aquatic Plants

Presentation to the
Lake Ramsey HOA
May 22, 2025

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Invasive, Aquatic Plants: Threats

- Outcompeting native species
- Changing and degrading natural habitats
- Require intensified maintenance
- Altering natural ecological processes

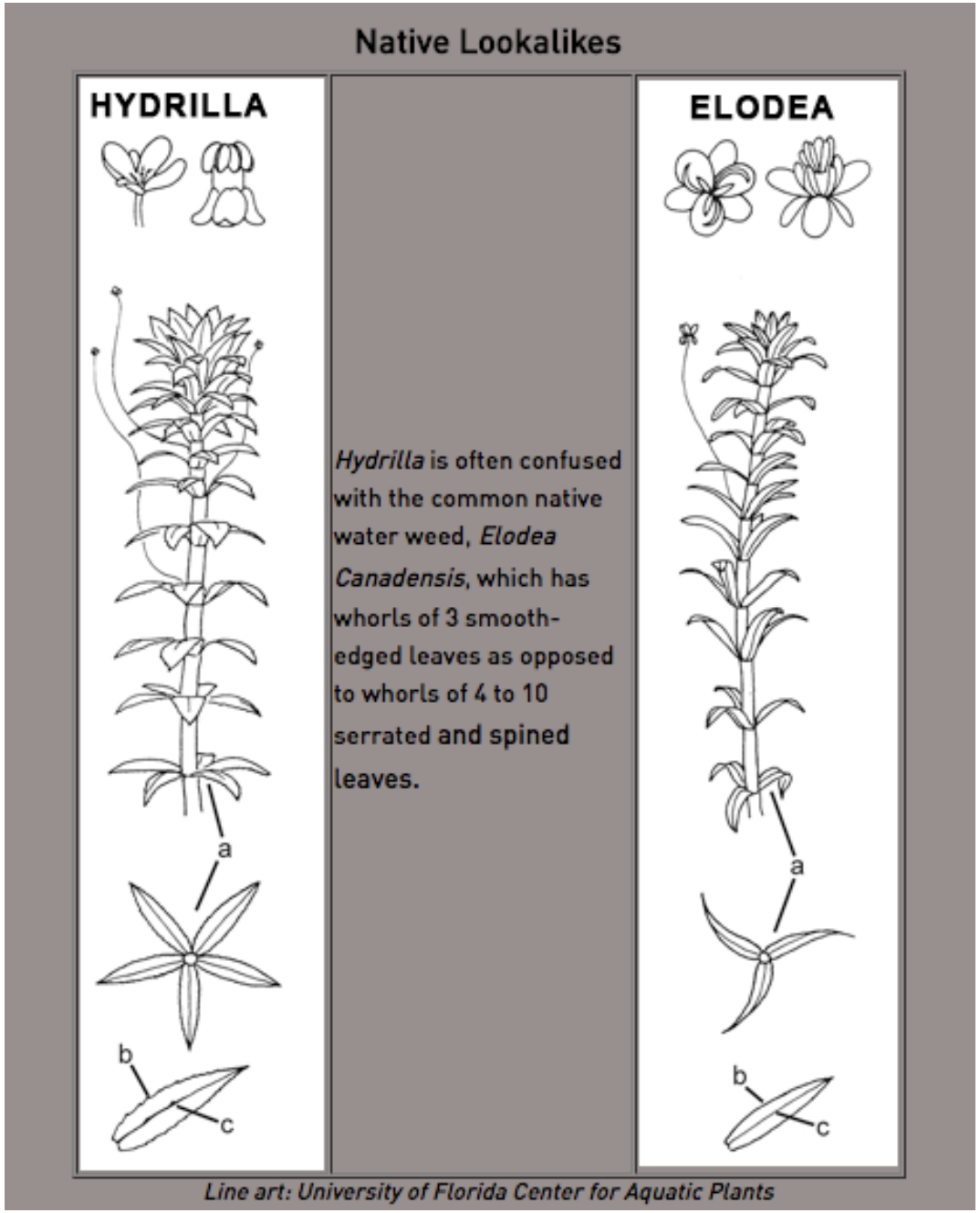
Resulting in extra costs for residents.

Invasive, Aquatic Plants: Spread

- Eaten by birds or attached to feet as the bird moves from place to place or through annual migration
- Attached to mobile mammals moving from place to place or annual migration
- Humans spread occurs accidentally when boats are moved from a waterbody to the next
- Aquarium trade or ornamental pond plant release to wild.

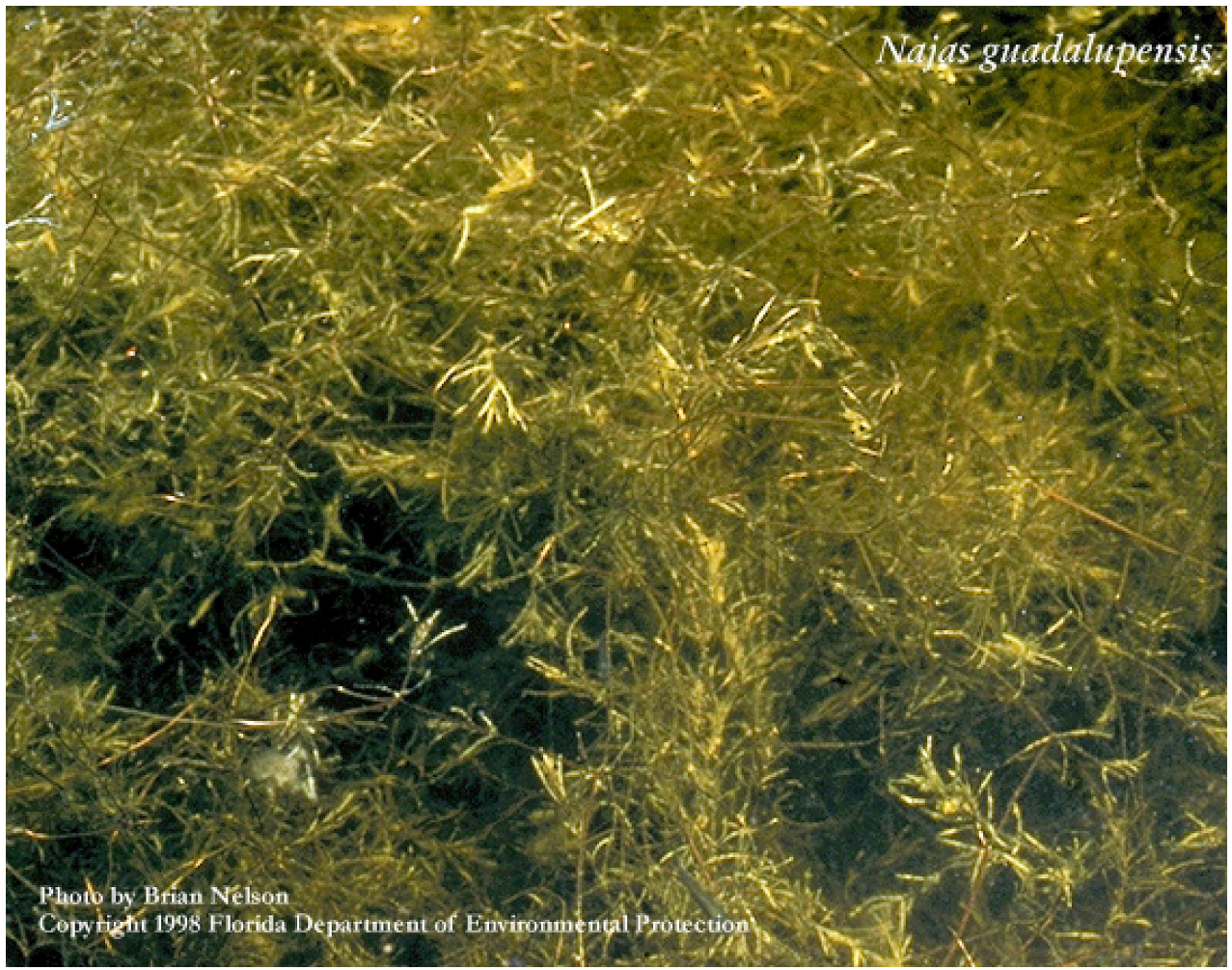
Hydrilla verticillate
Origins: China/Asia

- Submerged perennial
- Stems are slender and branched, covered with small pointed, often serrated leaves arranged in whorls of four to eight
- Leaf midribs are often reddish with one or more sharp spines
- Branching stems reach the surface and form dense mats
- Small white flowers



Hydrilla was introduced in the 1950's as an aquarium plant. It was released in waterways of Miami, Florida , quickly spreading to Tampa, FL. By the 1970's it had already spread to the Atchafalaya River Basin in south Louisiana.

Southern Naiad
Najas guadalupensis
Origin: US Native
Can become a nuisance.



Giant Salvinia
Photo Credit
LSU AgCenter

Salvinia molesta
Origin: Brazil

- Free Floating
- Small oblong, spongy, green leaves in whorls of three; two floating and one submerged
- Margins of mature plants curl inward
- Leaf surface has rows of hairs that, when magnified, are eggbeater shaped giving leaves a velvety appearance and repel water
- No Flowers

Control Methods for Unwanted Aquatic Plants

Example: Hydrilla
From: TAMU: How to Control Hydrilla - AquaPlant: Management of Pond Plants & Algae

Non-Herbicide Management Options

1. Physical Management Options: raking or seining it from the pond, shading by coloring the water or built structure like docks etc.
2. 2. Biological Management Options: Triploid grass carp

Herbicide Management Options

The active ingredients that have been successful in treating hydrilla include:

- **Bispyribac (Rated: Excellent)**
- Copper Complexes (Rated: Good)
- Diquat (Rated: Good)
- Endothall (Rated: Good)
- **Fluridone (Rated: Excellent)**
- Flumioxazin (Rated: Good)
- Imazamox (Rated: Good)
- **Penoxsulam (Rated: Excellent)**
- Florpyrauxifen-benzyl

References and Resources

https://www.lsuagcenter.com/articles/page1628699775060

Creation of a new center through the LSU AgCenter will aid in mitigating damage of invasive species

Aquatic-Invasive-Plants.pdf

15_WAP_2017_Ch_6.pdf

What Makes This Invasive, Non-Native Reed Grass Thrive in the Wetlands?

Invasive Species

Plant pests and invasive species | Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry