



Invasive Species In and Around Martins Pond

What are invasive species:

Any species, including its seeds, eggs, spores, or other biological material capable of propagating that species, that is not native to that ecosystem; and whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

What to look for:



Curly Leaved Pondweed



Fanwort*



Oriental Bittersweet*



Phragmites



Japanese Knotweed*



Purple Loosestrife*



Variable Milfoil

* Concerns at Martins Pond

You can prevent the spread of invasive species:

Boats:

- Inspect your boat, trailer and equipment and remove all visible aquatic plants, animals and mud.
- Drain water from live wells, bilge, motor, bait buckets and transom wells.
- Dry the boat and equipment for five days before transferring to a new lake. If drying isn't possible, rinse boat, trailer and equipment with hot water and/or spray with high-pressure water.
- Dispose unused bait into the trash.

Aquariums and Pets:

- If you have a fish tank or aquarium, dispose of animals and plants properly. Dry out plants and throw them in the trash. If you have fish or animals you no longer want, given them to another collector.
- Do not dump your aquatic plants or aquarium water into local waters.
- Never transport water, animals, or plants from one water body to another! In particular, do not release live fish or animals into a new body of water.
- Buy from reputable dealers whose non-native pets are properly labeled, legally imported, and not harboring foreign pests and diseases that can spread to indigenous wildlife.

Gardening:

- Learn about native plants and use them for gardening and landscaping; as a bonus, native varieties are suited to the local environment so they usually require less watering and maintenance.
- Before buying plants, check to see if they have the potential to be invasive. <http://www.invasive.org/>
- If you see your local nursery selling invasive plants or seeds, let them know about your concerns. Most are interested in avoiding problem species and will listen.
- Remove invasive plants from your yard.
- Dispose of invasive plants by burning them (if and when permitted) or sending them to the landfill, rather than by composting or dumping them in natural water bodies, where they can spread to the wild.

