

CURLY PONDWEED

Potamogeton crispus otherwise known as Curly Leaf Pondweed is an aquatic plant native to Eurasia. First introduced through the aquarium and garden pond industry, it has taken root in many Northern American ponds and lakes.

Curly Leaf Pondweed grows rapidly, growth commonly occurs in early spring and ends in late Summer. With the ability to grow in depths up to 10 feet deep, it quickly becomes a nuisance to native fish, plants, and recreational users.



CONTROL

Mechanical: Raking or cutting the vegetation has short term success. Though plants will regrow from leftover roots and seeds.

Biological: Mixed success rates have been found through the introduction of grass carp.

Chemical: Chemical treatment for most pondweeds will be endothall (contact) or fluridone (systemic). Endothall is formulated in a couple different ways; dipotassium salt of endothall is much more benign to fishes. Fluridone will be better suited to whole-water treatments. The contact herbicides would be better for spot treatments.

IF FOUND

Please contact Butler SWCD 513-887-3720 or OSU Extension at 513-887-3722

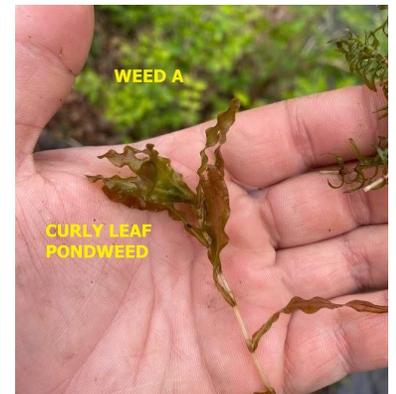
IDENTIFICATION

Curly Leaf Pondweed has striking similarity to other native aquatics. Close examination of samples when removed from the water will yield positive identification of any population.



Leaf arrangement is alternate. Never forming from the same growth point, leaves are arranged at equal intervals on the stem.

Mature plants have spike shaped seeds that form on the ends. Leaves are semi-transparent in nature and exhibit a gritty texture as well serrated and curly edges.



Curly Leaf Pondweed can be found in nearly every Butler County Township. Early identification and control is key to prevent it from overtaking an entire body of water. April and May are key months for herbicide treatment, the longer you wait the more of a problem it becomes and the less likely you are to eradicate it.



Find out more at
www.ButlerSWCD.org

