



WELCOME !

HOW TO LEAD AN IPP  
PLANT PADDLE





*Keeping a watchful eye on the health of  
Maine lakes since 1971*





*OUR MISSION ~ to protect  
Maine lakes through widespread  
citizen participation in the  
gathering and dissemination of  
credible scientific information  
pertaining to lake health*





# Lake Stewards of Maine

## *Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program*

- The oldest, and one of the largest, statewide citizen lake monitoring programs in U.S.
- Training and technical support for thousands of volunteer citizen scientists statewide
- 1200+ certified citizen lake scientists monitoring 500+ Maine lakes
- Largest collector of scientific information pertaining to Maine lakes



# MAINE'S IAS ACTION PLAN

- Prevention
- Early Detection \*
- Rapid Response & Management







# INVASIVE PLANT PATROL





# IPP STRATEGY FOR GROWTH & SUSTAINABILITY

- Multi- level system
- Volunteer IPP Leaders at every level
- Leadership training and support
- Increased emphasis on teamwork







IPP  
LEADERS!



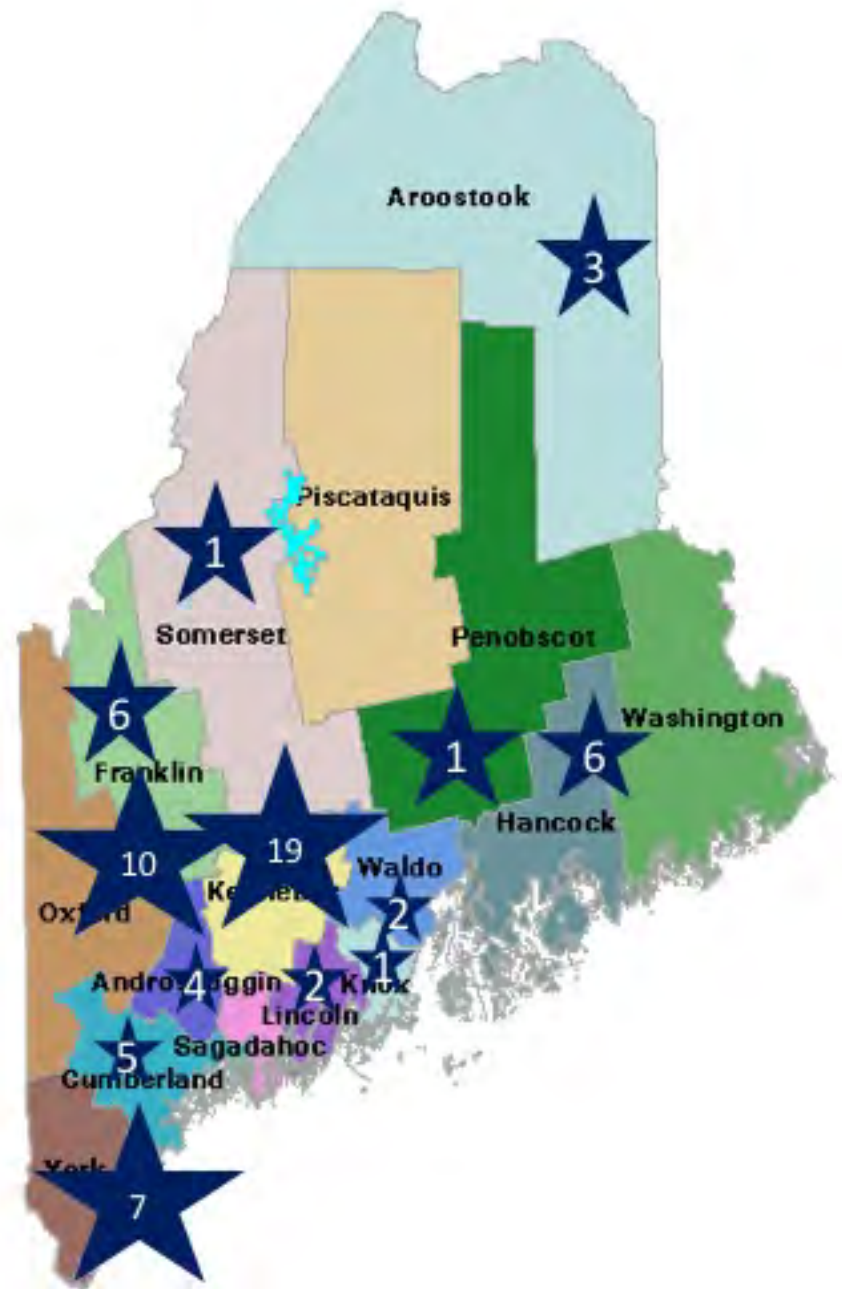


Volunteer IPP's providing leadership at the local, regional, and statewide levels



~70  
TEAMS &  
counting!

(active or actively  
forming)





# SUPPORT FOR IPP LEADERS



Aquatic Plant ID  
Training & Certification



How to Conduct a  
Plant Paddle



View Scope Clinic



IPP Leaders' Roundtable



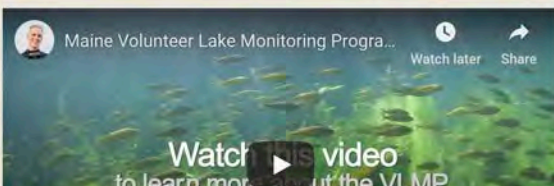
# TWO WEBSITES

www.lakestewardsofmaine.org  
www.lakesofmaine.org



## Home

Lake Stewards of Maine (LSM) is the NEW name for the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMPP). Please bear with us as we transition resources and materials to reflect this change. [Click here for an explanation of the name change](#).



OfMaine.org is a product of Lake Stewards of Maine, in  
ration with state and federal agencies and nonprofits.

Information about Maine Lakes...  
Maps, Charts, Data, Documents & more

Lake associations in Maine  
researchers in Maine & elsewhere  
fishers, boaters, swimmers & other Maine lake  
users  
lake managers

This site can also help you make connections with  
like-minded people in your community, as well as  
virtually all of the organizations, agencies,  
educational institutions and others who provide  
formation and services pertaining to Maine lakes.  
We hope your search is productive, and welcome  
your feedback about [LakesOfMaine.org](#).

What can you do at LakesOfMaine.org?

Learn

- Track the water quality of your lake. How does it compare with other Maine lakes?
- Discover the native & non-native plants & animals that inhabit Maine lakes
- Uncover the complexity of lake ecosystems

Explore our Conservation & Biodiversity pages!

- Find conservation lands around your lake
- See where lake associations are working
- Explore findings from Audubon loon surveys
- Learn about Maine's heritage brook trout lakes & much more!

Click on the **Conservation** tab at the top of this page

2017 water quality data update

The quality-assured water quality data recently received from DEP are now on-line. To view lake-specific data extracts, go to **Your Lake** and then click on **Water Quality**. OR, to explore the data files containing information for all surveyed



View Lists of Maine Lakes





# IPP LEADERS' PAGE



**LAKE STEWARDS OF MAINE**  
Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program  
*Keeping a watchful eye on the health of Maine lakes since 1971*

[Your Lake](#) [LSM News](#) [Maine Lake Report](#) [Contact](#)

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[HOME](#) [ABOUT](#) [MONITORING](#) [VOLUNTEER RESOURCES](#) [WORKSHOPS & EVENTS](#) [MEDIA](#)

## Invasive Plant Patrol Leaders



**Invasive Plant Patrol Leaders ~**  
***Welcome to our webpage just for YOU!***

When the Lake Stewards of Maine (LSM) achieves its *ultimate* goal as an organization, virtually every lake in the State of Maine will have one or more water quality monitors and an active team of trained Invasive Plant Patrollers routinely monitoring the health of the waterbody. This statewide cadre of dedicated volunteers, trained and certified by the LSM, will be supported and sustained by a well-organized, integrated, collaborative system involving the LSM, local, county and State agencies, trained volunteer coordinators, local lake associations, and regional lake conservation groups.







# HOW TO LEAD AN IPP *PLANT PADDLE*

An LSM workshop for trained Plant Patrollers, IPP  
Lake Team Leaders, and Regional IPP Leaders &  
others who wish to expand community  
engagement in local early detection efforts





# WHAT IS A PLANT PADDLE?



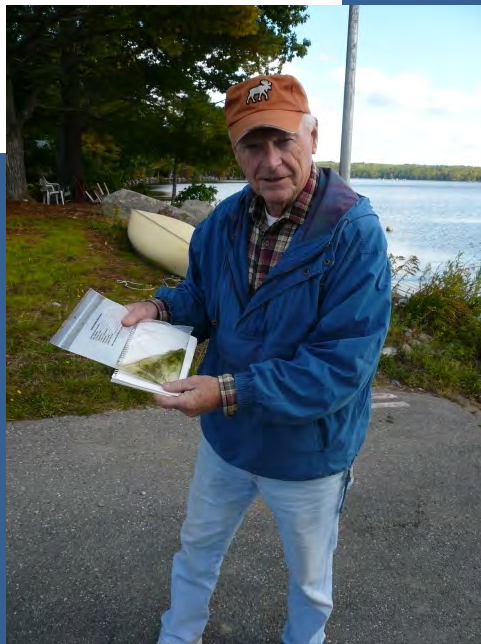
Plant Paddles are short (2 - 3 hour) events that take place on shore and on the water

Fun, informal way to introduce community members to the threat of IAP and the importance of early detection

Guided learning experiences, well suited to community events, i.e., lake days, civic group meetings, school outings, lake association meetings, etc.







# WHY PLANT PADDLES

?



The detection of hydrilla in a small remote cove in  
Damariscotta Lake makes it clear. . .  
IAP can be introduced anywhere in a waterbody





THE MORE TRAINED EYES ON THE WATER  
*THE BETTER!*



A trained, motivated IPP Team provides the best assurance that an invader will be found *before* it becomes irreversibly established



# PLANNING





<b>Task/Need</b>	<b>Existing Resources</b>	<b>Needed Resources</b>	<b>Strategy for Meeting Need/s</b>	<b>Task Assignment</b>	<b>Task Deadline</b>
<b>Event Planning &amp; Coordination</b>					
<b>Location</b>					
<b>Outreach</b>					
<b>Equipment &amp; materials</b>					
<b>Safety &amp; Liability Issues</b>					
<b>Agenda</b>					

# PLANNING MATRIX

# EVENT PLANNING & COORDINATION

Target audience? Lake association members, youth, retired folks, civic groups, all of the above? (Maximum number of participants?)

Stand alone event or part of larger community event?

Many hands make light work. Who can help you plan, coordinate and lead the Plant Paddle?

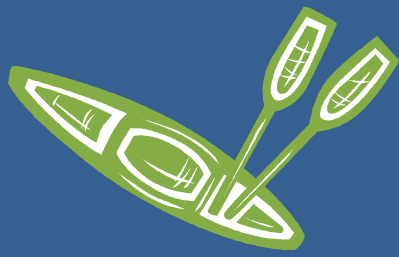
Choosing a date and time. Will there be a rain date?



# EVENT PLANNING & COORDINATION



Food?



# OUTREACH

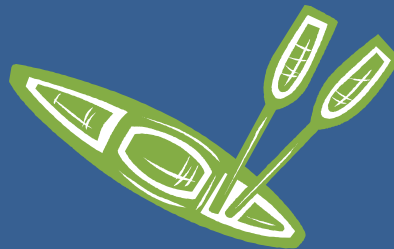


## Identify Target Audience

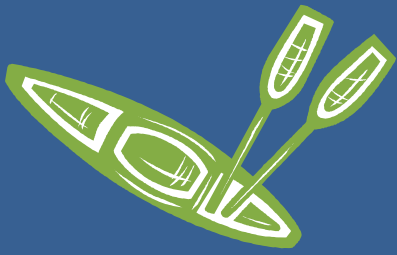
Community (**everyone** who has a stake in keeping local and state waters free of invaders)

Potential local (& statewide) partners

Potential plant paddle participants







# OUTREACH

## Develop Outreach Campaign

Press release: dailies, weeklies

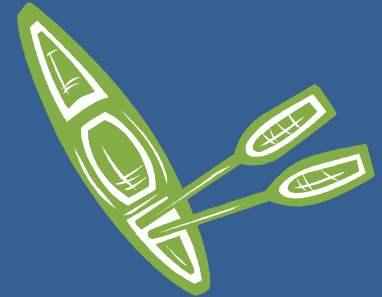
Newsletters

Flyers, posters

Web postings: town, lake association, social media

Meeting presentations

Word of mouth



LOCATION, LOCATION,  
LOCATION





# IDEAL LOCATION

An underwater photograph showing a dense seagrass bed. Several tall, thin green stems rise from the bottom, some topped with large, round, reddish-brown leaves. A prominent purple flower with yellow and orange markings is visible on the right side. The water is clear and blue, with sunlight filtering through from above.

Easy paddle to:

Quiet, protected littoral areas with interesting plant habitat; minimal boat traffic disturbance

Variety of plant densities

Good species diversity

Native look-alike species, a big plus



# IDEAL LOCATION

- Safe, carry-on access with ample nearby parking
- Open space to meet, look at plants, picnic, etc.
- Outdoor furniture, e.g., picnic tables, lawn chairs, etc. a big plus
- Access to bathroom or port-a-potty

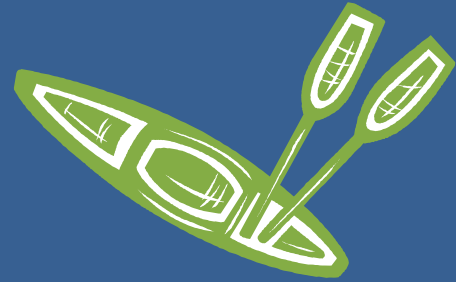


# EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS SUPPLIED BY LEADERS

- Rakes
- View scopes and pocket magnifiers
- Handouts including Quick Keys
- Instructor's Plant ID Flip Book \*
- Laminated tray cards \*
- Loaner ID Keys: Field Guides and Plant ID Card Sets
- Small White Trays (1 for every 2 people)
- 4 Large specimen trays
- Zip-loc bags (1 or 2 per person)



# EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS SUPPLIED BY PARTICIPANTS

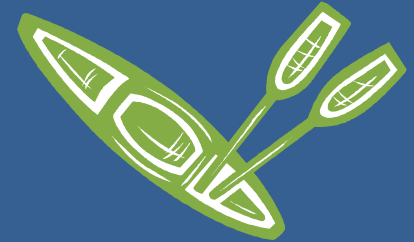
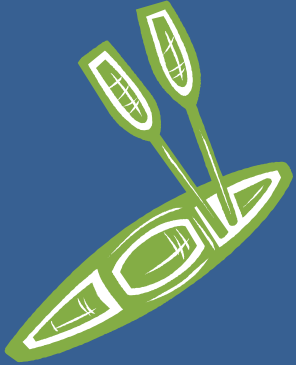


- Boat (canoe, kayak, rowboat or other shallow draft boat)
- Paddles, oars, etc.
- Personal Floatation Device (PFD)
- Polarized sunglasses
- Personal items: water, snacks, sunscreen, towel etc.
- Camera (optional)





# SAFETY & LIABILITY ISSUES



Go over basic safety protocols (to follow)

Consult with property owners & legal council on specific liability issues & concerns

Consider signed "liability release" forms



A photograph of three people in a canoe on a body of water. A man in a tan hat and blue life vest is on the left, smiling. A woman in a blue life vest and sunglasses is on the right, looking forward. A child in a blue and white striped life vest is in the middle, facing away from the camera. The canoe has "Old Town GUIDE" written on its side. A white speech bubble with a blue border is positioned above the text.

# SAFETY IS #1

- All participants paddle in teams
- All wear PFD's at all times when on the water
- Go over signal (whistle/bell) for calling folks off of the water in case of emergency
- Be prepared for sudden changes in weather
- Warn participants that dense plant communities can pose safety threats to swimmers & divers. Use caution!
- Invite a local EMT or First Responder to participate!



# THE PLANT PADDLE



KEEP IT SIMPLE . . . KEEP IT FUN!



# POSSIBLE PLAN OF ACTION . . .

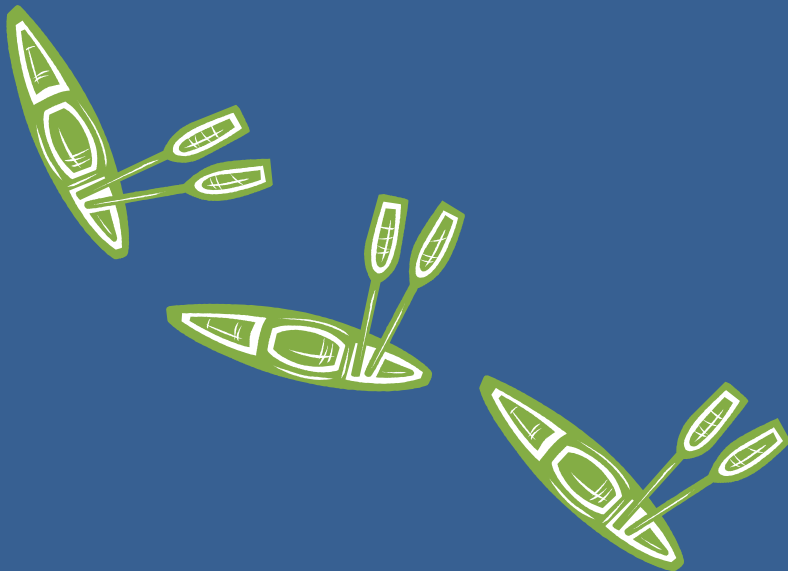


**8:00 IPP Leaders arrive** ~ assemble gear, collect an aquatic plant or two for demonstration

**9:00 Participants arrive** ~ assemble gear, sign-in, liability releases (refreshments?)

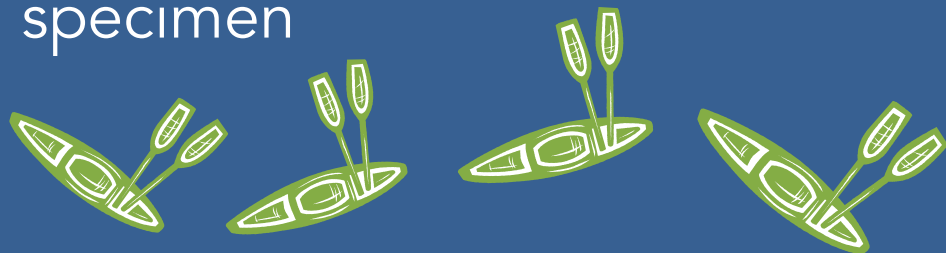
**9:30 Welcome & introductions** ~ name, lake, and reasons for coming (Sample welcome script in packet)



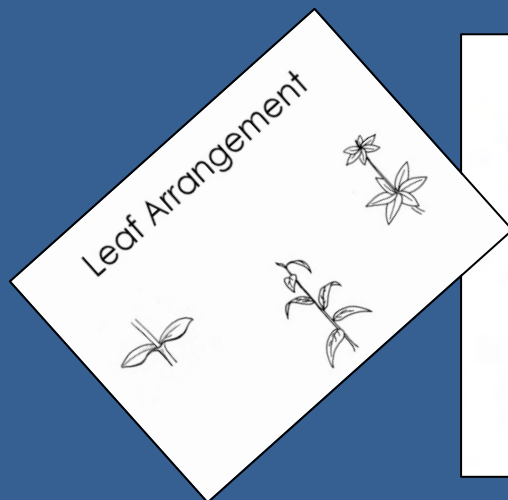
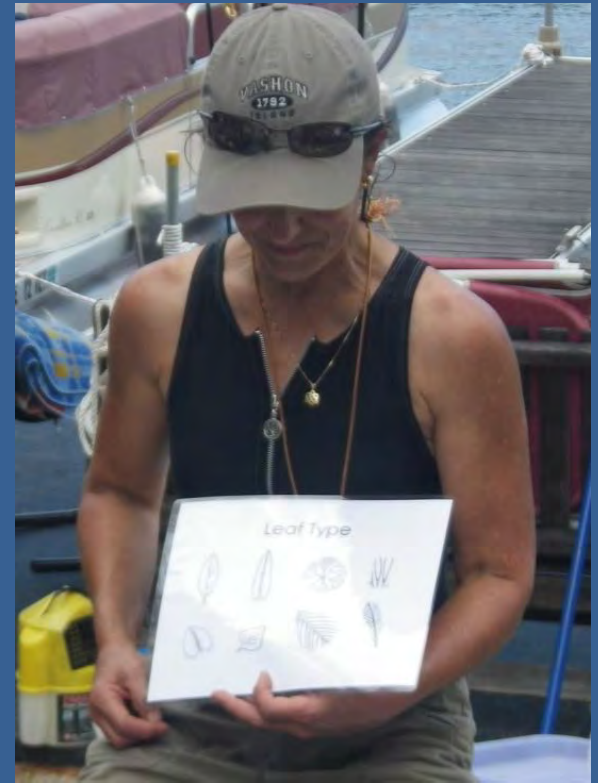


## 9:45 Get organized, oriented and ready to launch

- Go over safety protocols
- Liability release & PFD check
- Explain mission:
  - explore, observe, enjoy the littoral zone
  - practice using the Quick Key (to be demonstrated soon)
  - collect one or two plants
- Explain how to collect a specimen



- Go over the basics of plant structure (using Flip Book)
- Pass out Quick Keys (if you have not already done so)
- Introduce and (using one of the pre-collected plants) demonstrate how to use the Quick Key





- Distribute gear
- Buddy-up
- Launch boats!



# CONTINUED



## 10:15 *On the Water!*

- Mingle; share your enthusiasm, answer questions; encourage and assist Quick Key practice
- Help paddlers identify some common natives “in-situ” using the Field Guide & other ID aids











11:15 Return to  
shore ~ Plant ID  
Exercise





# QUICK KEY PRACTICE & PLANT SORTING

## Plant ID Exercise



# QUICK KEY PRACTICE & PLANT SORTING

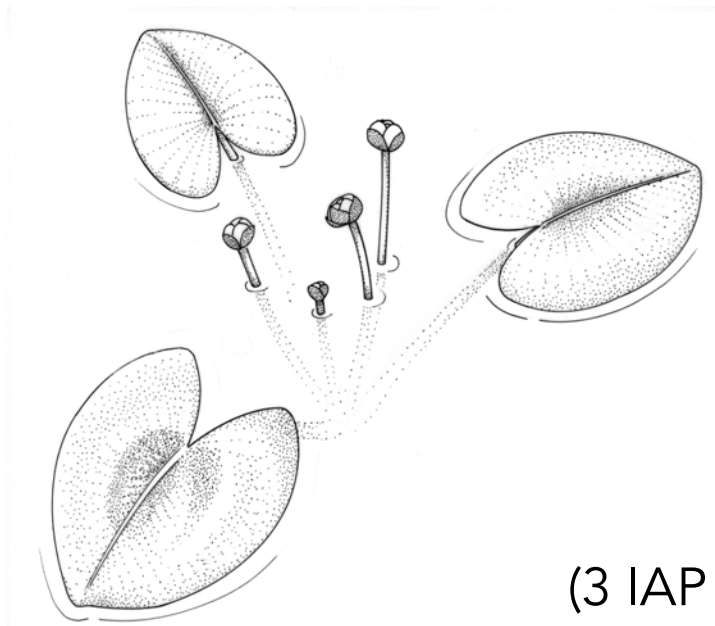
Encourage paddlers to run at least one of their collected plants through the Quick Key if they have not already done so out on the water. Assist as needed.

Ask paddlers to sort collected plant specimens into following four labeled trays, providing assistance as needed





# *floating-leaf plants*



(3 IAP in this category)

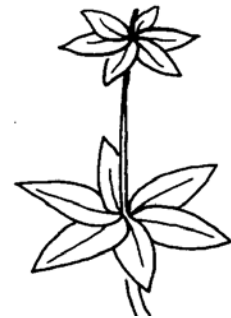
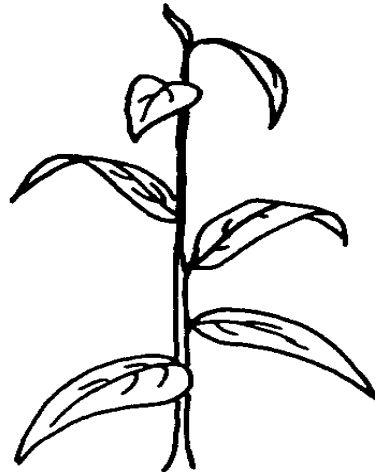
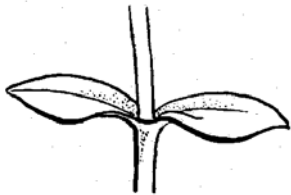
# *finely-divided leaves arranged on stems*



(4 IAP in this category)



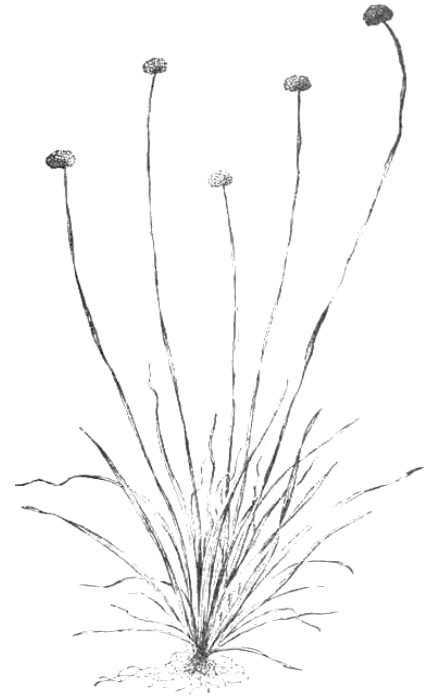
# *blade or strap-shaped leaves arranged on stems*



(4 IAP in this category)



*everything  
else!!*





# DISTINGUISHING FRIEND FROM FOE

## Plant ID Exercise



# DISTINGUISHING FRIEND FROM FOE

Check trays to make sure plants have been sorted properly.

*If plants are sorted properly, all plants in the “Everything Else” tray can be ruled out as suspected invaders (If time, help paddlers identify these friendly natives)*

Use the Flip Book to help paddlers compare the plants in each of the three “possible invader” trays to the target invaders

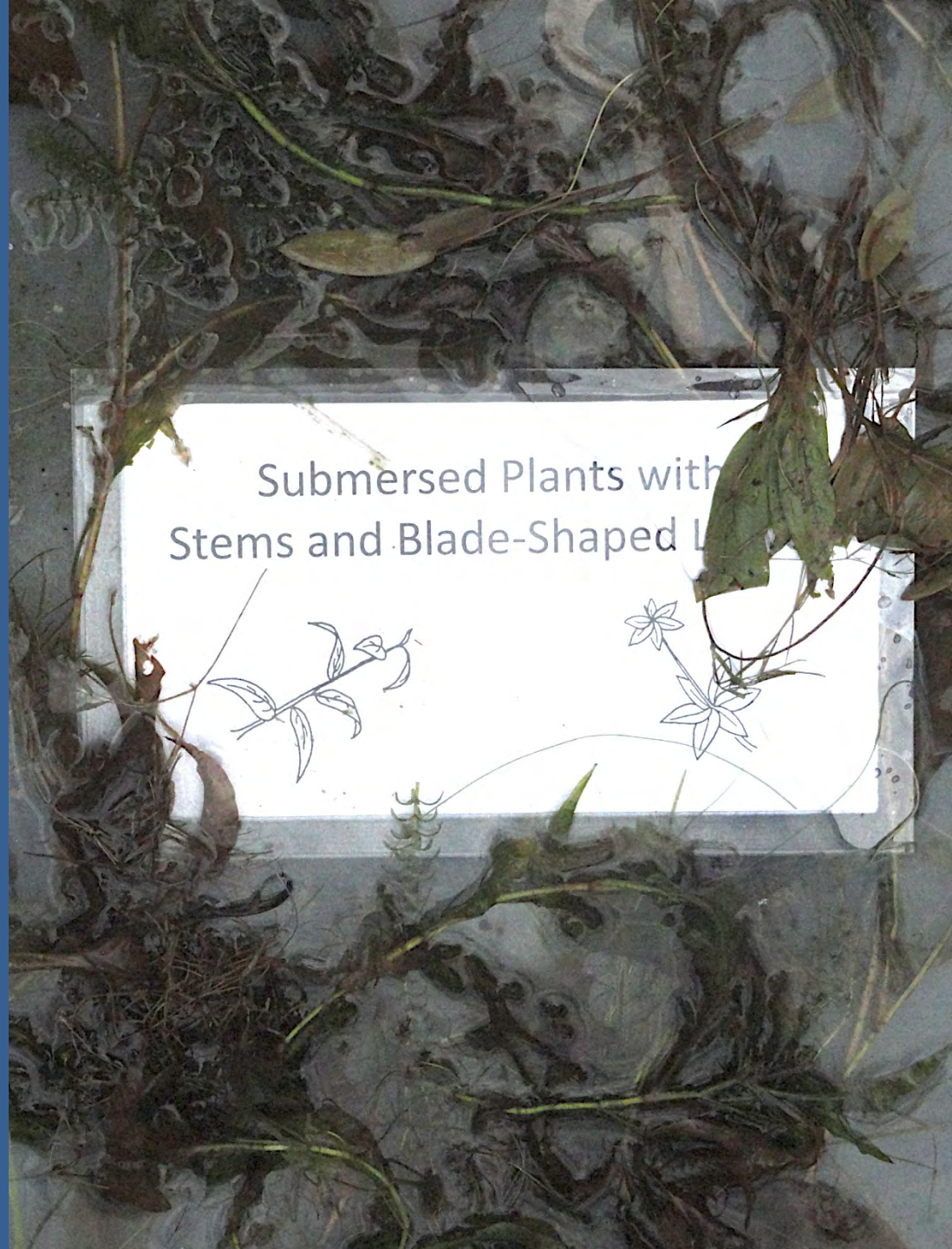


# FRIEND OR FOE?

Any suspicious plants?

Milfoils are *always*  
suspicious until proven  
otherwise

Go over what to do if a  
suspicious plant is  
found





11:50 Final comments; Q & A; What's next?

12:00 Conclude



# NEXT STEPS

## BUILDING & COORDINATING YOUR IPP TEAM



# HOST / JOIN AN LSM IPP WORKSHOP



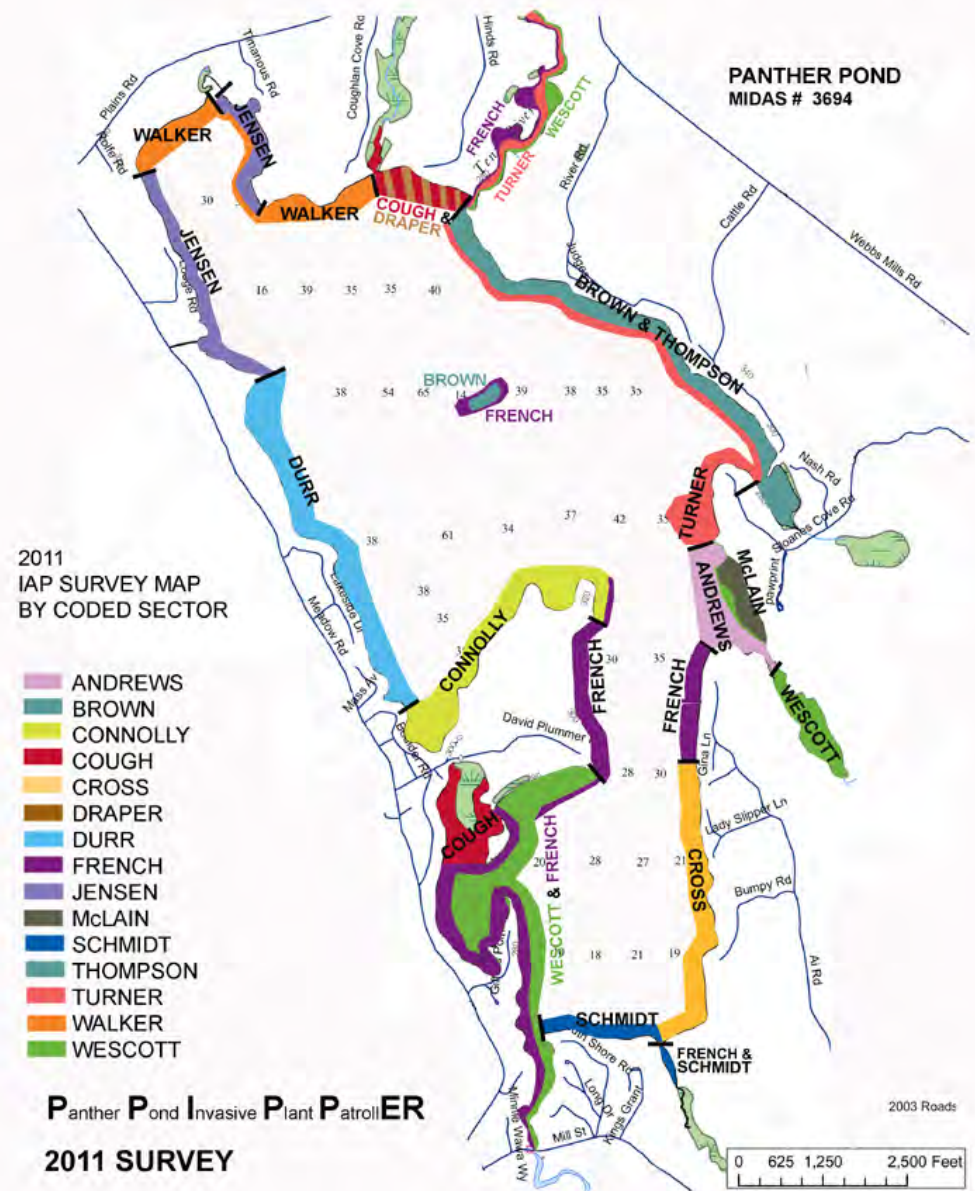
2019 IPP workshop schedule will be up on the LSM  
website in early spring at  
[www.LakeStewardsOfMaine.org](http://www.LakeStewardsOfMaine.org)



# HOLD AN IPP LAKE TEAM MEETING



Use the meeting to get organized and determine the scope and strategy for your survey





# START YOUR SURVEY!



# WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU!



Presented by Roberta Hill  
Lake Stewards of Maine  
207-783-7733  
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THANK YOU FOR JOINING US  
IN THIS IMPORTANT EFFORT!



# QUESTIONS??

