

# Announcement

For immediate release  
June 23, 2023



## Cataraqi Conservation - Aquatic Invasive Species

This summer the Cataraqi Conservation's watershed monitoring staff are focusing efforts on priority aquatic invasive plant species. A new webpage was created with lots of information: <https://cataraquiconservation.ca/pages/invasive-species> and our social media posts will also promote this topic. This is a link to our first blog post on the topic: <https://cataraquiconservation.ca/blogs/news/creature-feature-invasive-aquatic-plant-series>.

There are four main components of the Summer 2023 work:

1. Generally, raise awareness of the impacts of aquatic invasive plant invaders and how to keep them from taking over.
- 2) Detect and report any Water Soldier or European Water Chestnut because, at this point, we are only aware that they are either located in one known location or are near our borders. Reports can be made via [EDDMapS](#) or by calling the Invasive Species Hotline: 1-800-536-7711.
3. Increase reporting of invasive Phragmites observations through the [EDDMapS](#) citizen science platform, so we better understand the scale of the current invasion as existing reports are known to be much lower than what is growing throughout the region.
4. Remove early infestations of invasive Phragmites in standing water.
  - a. Starting July 15<sup>th</sup>, Cataraqi Conservation is offering:
    - i. Loaner removal equipment kits
    - ii. Staff removal assistance for volunteer workdays

People may also notice posters about an aquatic invasive species survey at our [boat launches](#) and [water access points](#). Collected information will improve understanding of facility use and invasive species knowledge to better inform our programs and services.

Your help to promote this work within your networks is much appreciated.

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