

# European Frog-bit

*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*

**Northeast Michigan Priority Level: Local Priority**

## Identify it!

European frog-bit can only be found in the water and is free-floating. It has round, smooth, leathery, heart-shaped leaves and a white flower about 1/2" in diameter. The floating leaves have stalks about 2 1/2" long that form a rosette on a short stem. By mid-summer, this plant can spread to form thick mats of interlocking plants. It overwinters at the bottom of the shoreline by dropping structures called turions.

## Report it!

Tell us what you've found! Visit [www.huronpines.org/invasives](http://www.huronpines.org/invasives) or email [invasives@huronpines.org](mailto:invasives@huronpines.org).

## Remove it!

European frog-bit can be removed manually by hand-pulling. Make sure to pull the entire root up as root fragments can regrow into new plants. Once pulled, dispose in the trash or compost.

## Understand it!

Originally from Switzerland, this plant was brought to Canada intentionally for use at an arboretum in 1932 and spread to the United States from there. Left unchecked, European frog-bit forms thick mats that clog waterways, damage wildlife habitat and impact recreation like boating.

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Photo: Maine DEP

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