Top 10 Invasive Speices Watch List:

Zebra Mussels WIDELY ESTABLISHED N BLACK LAKE

First seen in Black Lake in 1999, they are widely established in our lake and there is no effective treatment for them. They have significantly Impacted our walleye fishery and attach to any substrate. They consume phytoplankton necessary for nutrition of small walleye fry. They are spread by boats that have not been cleaned, drained or dried when coming from another body of water.

Phragmites PRESENT IN AREA

There is a native phragmites known as common reed that is widely seen in the area. Invasive Phargmites is non native reed that grows aggressively crowding out other plants, growing to as high as 10-15 feet tall. It grows quickly, and is very difficult and costly to eradicate once established. We have located some small stands of this plant and are proactively treating it with herbicides when identified. As it is similar in appearance to the native form, we have provided here a resource to compare the two varieties.

Native vs invasive Phragmites PDF

Purple Loosestrife PRESENT IN AREA

This prettty purple wildflower introduced from Europe many years ago as an ornamental can overtake an area, spreading into the water, crowding out native plants and impeding navigation. Each plant has the ability to drop millions of seeds and develop dense root systems whch make it difficult to remove. Last year we found over 20 sites with loosestirfe in our area. 17 sites were treated by property owners, our invasive species team in concert with Huron Pines.

Curly Leaf Pondweed WATCHLIST INVASIVE

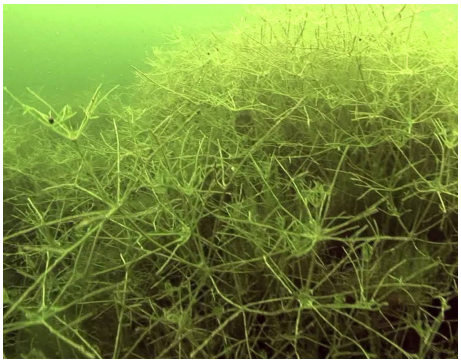
is a submersed aquatic plant that out competes native plants because it starts growing before native plants and develops dense stands. We have native pondweed in Black Lake which has a longer smoother leaf. We aare seeing some overgrowth of the native plant near the Stoney Creek this year

Eurasian Watermilfoil WATCHLiST INVASIVE

This species is similar to the northern watermilfoil seen in the north end of Black Lake. It differs from the native plant because it overgrows forming thick underwater mats of tangled stems that can impede fishing, swimming and navigation. Nearby Paradise lake ihas been infested with this weed. Cleaning boats well when leaving a body of water can help prevent it's spread.

European Frogbit WATCHLIST INVASIVE

Seen mostly in slow moving rivers, creeks ponds and inlets, this free floating aquatic plant can form dense mats of vegetation that impede navigation, impact habitat for ducks and fish and reduce oxygen and light in the water column. Seen Iin southeast Michigan Prevention: CLEAN DRAIN DRY your boat when leaving a body of water



Starry Stonewort WATCH LIST INVASIVE

Listed as established in michigan, this invasive green macro algae can grow dense mats that significantly reduce the diversity of aquatic plants. It impedes the movement of fish spawning and water flow and recreational acitivites. Widely distirbuted.

Red Swamp Crawfish WATCHLIST INVASIVE

Native to Mississippi these crawfish came to Michigan as food and or bait and compete with native crawfish tor food and habitat. Burrowing and foraging acitivities have been to summer cyanobacterica blooms and degradation of lake health

New Zealand Mud Snail WATCHLIST INVASIVE

First seen in the western United States as early as 1987, the NZ mudnail is found in many streams in Michigan including the nearby AuSable River. It is very small measuring only 1/8 inch and can be carried on bootsand waders from streams. Disinfection of fishing gear with products such as formula 409 can reduce spread. They drive out native snails, and eat food sources for trout.

Round Goby WATCHLIST INVASIVE

This 5-7in bottom feeder can displace native fish such as sculpin. They eat the eggs of other fish, including trout and can spawn multiple times a year out competing other fish for habitat. On the plus side, they do eat zebra mussels, and provide food for smallmouth bass. They have been found in southern Lake Erie, LAKE Michigan and western Lake Suerior

Quagga Mussel WATCHLIST INVASIVE

Much larger than the zebra mussel, the quagga mussel has completely colonized Lake Michigan over the past 20 years. It can feed year round in deep cold water and can live on hard or soft surfaces. It is impacting the food chain for native fish by consuming nutrients necessary for young fry to develop and contributes to toxic algal blooms and by allowing more sunlight to encourage growth of problem weeds.