Curly-leaf Pondweed
(*Potamogeton crispus*)

SEARCH LOCATIONS
- In water 3-10 feet deep
- Fragments along shoreline

SEARCH TIME
- Ice-off through August

SEARCH IMAGE
- Submerged “lasagna” leaves

IDENTIFICATION CHECKLIST
- 1) Leaf edges have fine teeth
- 2) Leaves have secondary veins branching from the midvein

OTHER HELPFUL HINTS
- A single leaf vein runs parallel to the leaf edge
- Leaf tips are blunt (not pointed)
- Branching stems may/not form mats just below water surface (flowers may extend above water)

LOOK-ALIKES with “lasagna” leaves

These native look-alikes have parallel (not branching) leaf veins
INFORMATION ON HUBBARD COUNTY AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES WATCH:
Curly-leaf Pondweed (Potamogeton crispus)

MINNESOTA STATUS: Prohibited invasive species
It is unlawful (a misdemeanor) to possess, import, purchase, transport, or introduce curly-leaf pondweed except under a permit for disposal, control, research, or education.

IF YOU FIND A NEW OCCURANCE OF CURLY-LEAF PONDWEED
1) Record its location (GPS coordinates, labeled dot on map or landmark)
2) Record the date
3) Document the plant (electronic images that include items on the “checklist”)
4) Provide this information to the local MN DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist. Name and contact information can be found at: http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/contacts.html

METHOD(S) OF REPRODUCTION
• “Turions” (dormant buds; see images below) form on the plants, sink and lie dormant on the lake bottom during the hottest part of summer; they germinate in the fall and live under the ice during winter
• Stem segments can root and grow into new plant (stems break from waves, boat propellers, harvesting)
• Underground stems (rhizomes) spread outward from original plant to form new plants
• No germination of seeds has been observed

VECTORS OF SPREAD
• Plants or stem fragments in/on boats, motors, live wells, bilges, boat trailers, other equipment

RESOURCES
Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health: http://www.invasive.org

2/2016