

## NEVER RELEASE AQUATIC PLANTS OR ANIMALS INTO WATERWAYS

- Inspect purchases and remove unwanted eggs, animals, seeds, plants or plant parts.
- Seal unwanted plants and packaging material in a plastic bag and place in trash. If possible, freeze the bag before disposal.
- Sterilize waste water (1/4 teaspoon bleach for each gallon of water) and pour down the toilet - never down a storm drain.
- Find a new owner or seek advice on humane disposal for unwanted animals.

## MANY PLANTS AVAILABLE TO AQUARIUM OWNERS ARE INVASIVE

If introduced into our waterways -either accidentally or intentionally- they can reduce the amount of food available to fish and wildlife and change how ecosystems function.

They can also cost millions to eradicate or control.

Growing only non-weedy or regionally native plants is one way you can help protect our natural areas from aquatic invaders.

For more information on aquatic invaders in the marketplace and to learn about species regulations for your state, visit:

[TakeAIM.org/aquarium-plants](http://TakeAIM.org/aquarium-plants)



Produced by Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant & Illinois Natural History Survey, Prairie Research Institute in partnership with the Great Lakes Sea Grant Network, Loyola University Chicago, Environmental Change Initiative at the University of Notre Dame, The Nature Conservancy, and the PIJAC, USFWS and NOAA Habitattitude™ campaign ([www.habitattitude.net](http://www.habitattitude.net)). Funding for this program is provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. ©2015 The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois. IISG-15-023

Photo credits: "*Elodea canadensis*" by Christian Fischer, "*Egeria densa*" by Lara Gudmundsdottir

# WHAT'S — IN YOUR — AQUARIUM?

PROTECT OUR NATURAL AREAS  
PURCHASE ONLY NON-INVASERS



Common names can be misleading. Using scientific names can help you make better purchases.



## PURCHASE THESE NON-INVADERS

*Aponogeton natans* - ---

*Blyxa japonica* - ---

*Bolbitis heteroclita* - ---

*Cardamine lyrata* - Japanese cress

*Ceratophyllum demersum* - hornwort

*Elodea canadensis* - American waterweed

*Glossostigma elatinoides* - glosso

*Heteranthera zosterifolia* - stargrass

*Hottonia palustris* - water violet

*Lilaeopsis brasiliensis* - Brazilian micro sword

*Lilaeopsis novae-zelandiae* - micro sword

*Ludwigia inclinata* - ---

*Ludwigia ovalis* - oval ludwigia

*Microcarpaea minima* - chickenweed sparrow

*Monosolenium tenerum* - pellia

*Nechamandra alternifolia* - nechamandra

*Potamogeton gayi* - ---

*Rotala mexicana* - ---

*Rotala wallichii* - whorly rotala

*Utricularia aurea* - golden bladderwort

## AVOID THESE INVADERS

*Egeria densa* - Brazilian waterweed or anacharis

*Hydrilla verticillata* - hydrilla

*Lagarosiphon major* - oxygen weed

*Limnophila sessiliflora* - dwarf ambulia

*Myriophyllum aquaticum* - parrot feather

*Myriophyllum spicatum* - Eurasian watermilfoil

*Najas minor* - brittle waternymph

*Potamogeton crispus* - curly pondweed