

Ask a UC Master Gardener



Practice Responsible Water Gardening

Invasive aquatic plants have escaped from
water gardens into natural waterways



Water hyacinth surrounding boat. Photo: Bob Case

harming native
plants, fish, and
other aquatic life.

To prevent these introductions, do
not dump plants from your water
garden or aquarium into local
storm drains, streams, or ponds.

Please contact your local master gardener for more information <http://camastergardeners.ucdavis.edu>

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How you can help:

- **Prevent introductions—DO NOT RELEASE** or purchase invasive plants, such as:

FLOATING		SUBMERGED		
giant salvinia	water hyacinth	hydrilla	Brazilian waterweed	Eurasian watermilfoil
				
leaves 1/16" – 1.5"	leaves 4 – 8" flower 2"	leaf width 1/8" – 1/4"	leaf width 1/4"	leaf length 1/2"

POND MARGIN or BOG				
giant reed	purple loosestrife	yellow flag iris	Uruguayan water primrose	parrotfeather
				
height up to 20'	height up to 6.5'	height up to 6' flower length 4" – 6"	plant height 3' flower length 1" – 1.5"	height up to 1' above waterline, leaves .75" – 2"

- Dispose of unwanted pond plants by composting away from water bodies or sealing in plastic bags and placing in a trash container.
- Build your water garden away from natural waterways.

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How you can help:

- Grow plants in containers to reduce the chance of spread. Even native plants can grow vigorously in your pond.
- Plant non-invasive alternatives, such as:

FLOATING

yellow pondlily



Photo: Joseph DiTomaso

Cape pondweed



Photo: Vince Scheidt

flower 4 – 6"
plant height up to 24"

SUBMERGED

coontail or hornwort



Photo: Jack Kelly Clark

leaf length 3"

NOTE:

There are few safe alternatives to submerged plants.

These plants spread freely, especially those that are not rooted.

POND MARGIN or BOG

lobelias



Photo: Larry Stritch

flower spike 1'
plant height 3'

arrowheads



Photo: Jack Kelly Clark

flower spike 3"
plant height 2 – 3'

pickerelweed



Photo: Joseph DiTomaso

flower spike 3 – 4"
plant height 3.5'

common yellow monkeyflower



Photo: Bob Case

flower 1 – 2" wide
plant height 4 – 20"

western blueflag iris



Photo: Bob Case

flower 4 – 6" long
plant height 8 – 20"