

FLOW AIS Waterways Writings

October 2021

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WHAT IS FLOW AIS

Hello everyone, My Name is Derek Thorn (photo bottom left). I am the FLOW Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Coordinator. FLOW stands for Forest, Langlade, and Oconto Waterways. FLOW was created in May of 2021.

I was born and raised in the Rhinelander area. I attended Three Lakes High School where I was first introduced to aquatic invasive species as a Clean Boats Clean Waters Inspector for the Three Lakes Waterfront Association. From high school I attended the University of Wisconsin-Steven Point and received degrees in Water Resource Management, Wildlife Ecology and Management, and Biology.

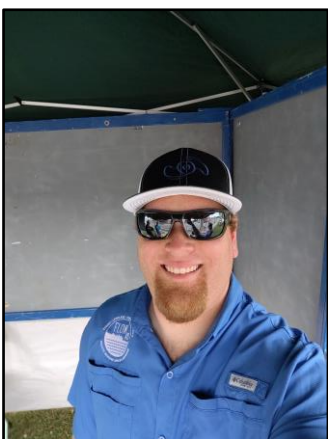
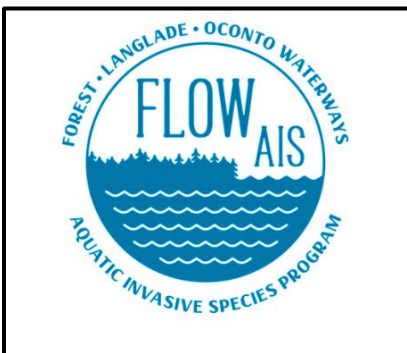
Being a part of FLOW, is important to me. Working to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species is something I value and find essential. Learning about invasive species and protecting our native waterways was my main focus in college. I am incredibly happy I have the opportunity to continue making a difference in the world of aquatic invasive species.

What Does FLOW Do?

- Work with public, county, and state organizations
- Coordinate education and outreach programs
- Assist lake associations and districts
- Citizens Lake Monitoring Network trainings
- Clean Boats Clean Waters trainings
- Help with surface water grant writing
- Lake Studies

All To Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

Please reach out to FLOW if you have questions about Aquatic Invasive Species or if you have interest in education, outreach, or training programs and grants.



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

New Invasive Species in Oconto County!!!

European Frog Bit

Found along Lake Michigan in streams and inlets along highway Y in Oconto WI into Marinette County

Ecological threat Frog Bit Poses:

- It invades shallow, quiet or slow-moving water; edges of lakes, rivers and streams; swamps, marshes, and ditches.
- Forms large colonies of dense, floating mats that can dramatically affect native aquatic life and limit recreational activities.

Identification:

Leaves: Usually floating; resemble tiny water lilies; kidney-shaped with long stems; Usually a half in to two and a half inches in diameter; smooth feeling. Lower leaf surfaces are dark purple in color.

Flowers: White; cup-shaped; three petals with yellow dots at base; bloom mid-summer.

Fruits & seeds: Rarely produces seeds and instead relies on vegetative reproduction.

Roots: Long, cord-like stolons form large floating mats of connected plants. It also forms turions.

Similar species: Often confused with American frog-bit (*Limnobium spongia*),

A removal effort of European Frog Bit started in the summer of 2021_(right)



CITIZENS LAKE MONITORING

What Citizens Lake Monitor's Monitor:

- Water quality
- Water chemistry
- When ice on and ice off occurs
- Aquatic Invasive Species
- Native aquatic Species



Why is Lake Monitoring important?

Lake monitoring is important to make sure that our Lakes remain a healthy part of our ecosystem. Think of your own health as a lake. What are some of the steps you take to keep yourself healthy? Eat right, exercise, keeping a sharp mind, stay positive among other things. The same idea can be applied to our lakes if we start ignoring them like we would our health things can do wrong.

The Citizens Lake Monitoring Network Program acts as an annual check up for lakes. It is a snapshot in time of a lake's condition. Measurements taken during these checkups are water clarity, temperature profile, dissolved oxygen content, water chemistry, plant identification, and animal identification. Most of the monitoring is done by volunteers that live on a lake or have special interest in a lake. This helps promote education and community involvement. Right now, there are over 1000 volunteers state-wide.



For More information on the Citizens Lake Monitoring Network Program please visit:

<https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/clmn/default.aspx>



1 UPCOMING NEWS

Winter Desk Season is Slowly Approaching

FLOW Word Search



Boat, Crayfish, Flow ,Frogbit, Invasive Species, Lake, Lumberjack, Milfoil, Water, Yellow Iris, Zebra Mussel

FLOW AIS Is a Part of Lumberjack RCD

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