LEAFY MILFOIL FEATURE COMPARISON CHART

Note: All leafy milfoil species display a wide range of vegetative variability. The characteristics described in this chart should be viewed as typical, not definitive. Occasional exceptions are to be expected.

MILFOIL SPECIES	INVASIVE OR NATIVE	LEAF ARRANGEMENT	AVG # LEAVES PER WHORL	AVG # LEAFLET PAIRS PER LEAF	AVG DISTANCE BETWEEN WHORLS (Internodal spacing)	WINTER BUDS	REPRODUCTIVE STRUCTURES AND OTHER DISTINGUISHING FEATURES
Eurasian water-milfoil *Myriophyllum spicatum*	INV	whorled	3 to 6	12 to 24	1 cm or more	n	Flowers and bracts are arranged in whorls on emergent sp kes; bracts are blade-shaped and entire; flowers are larger than bracts
Parrot feather *Myriophyllum aquaticum*	INV	whorled	4 to 6	10 to 18	1 cm or more	n	Flowers occur in the axils of the emergent leaves; emergent stems may grow to a height of 30 cm above the surface; tiny flowers are white and inconspicuous
Variable leaf water-milfoil *Myriophyllum heterophyllum*	INV	whorled	4 to 6	5 to 14	less than 5 mm	y	Flowers and bracts are arranged in whorls on emergent sp kes; bracts are blade-shaped, serrated and larger than the flowers; red stems are common
Hybrid water-milfoil *M. heterophyllum X M. laxum*	INV	whorled	4 to 6	5 to 14	less than 5 mm	n	Flowers and bracts are variously arranged on emergent sp kes; bracts are variously shaped and larger than the flowers; red stems and leaves are common

WATER-MILFOIL SPECIES COMPARISON CHART

MILFOIL SPECIES	INVASIVE OR NATIVE	LEAF ARRANGEMENT	AVG # LEAVES PER WHORL	AVG # LEAFLET PAIRS PER LEAF	AVG SPACING BETWEEN WHORLS / LEAVES	WINTER BUDS	REPRODUCTIVE STRUCTURES AND OTHER DISTINGUISHING FEATURES
Alternate leaf water-milfoil *Myriophyllum alterniflorum*	**NAT**	whorled	3 to 5	3 to 7	up to 1 cm	y	Flowers and bracts are arranged alternately on emergent sp kes; bracts are blade-shaped, entire or serrated, and larger than the flowers; typically the smallest leafy milfoil
Farwell's water-milfoil *Myriophyllum farwelli*	**NAT**	radially scattered & whorled	3 to 5	5 to 12	less than 5 mm	y	Flowers occur in submersed leaf axils; tiny sectioned fruits have bumpy ridges; reddish leaves and stems are common
Low water-milfoil *Myriophyllum humile*	**NAT**	radially scattered	na	5 to 12	less than 5 mm	n	Flowers occur in submersed leaf axils; tiny sectioned fruits are smooth; reddish leaves and stems are common
Northern water-milfoil *Myriophyllum sibiricum*	**NAT**	whorled	4 to 5	5 to 14	up to 1 cm	y	Flowers and bracts are arranged in whorls on emergent spikes; bracts are entire or finely-serrated, and the same length or slightly longer than the flowers
Whorled water-milfoil *Myriophyllum verticillatum*	**NAT**	whorled	4 to 5	5 to 14	up to 1 cm	y	Flowers and bracts are arranged in whorls on emergent spikes; bracts are pinnately lobed, and 2 (or more) times longer than the flowers