

What are those yellow floating things?

NEW COLLABORATIVE STUDY TO IMPROVE MANAGEMENT OF CONNECTICUT RIVER HYDRILLA

RESEARCH PURPOSE

Researchers from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the University of Florida, and the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station are launching a field study to better understand the growth process of *Hydrilla verticillata* subsp. *lithuanica* (Connecticut River hydrilla), an invasive aquatic plant threatening aquatic waterbodies in the northeast.

This plant has been observed in several waterbodies throughout Connecticut and Massachusetts, including the Connecticut River.

In order to best inform future management decisions, researchers will be collecting more information on this plant. The purpose of this study is to learn more about hydrilla growth processes, and collect observational data. The results of this study will ultimately help minimize the spread of this aquatic invasive plant.

NO HERBICIDES OR DYES WILL BE USED FOR THE DURATION OF THIS STUDY.

WHAT TO EXPECT

The research team will monitor hydrilla populations at four to five sites along the Connecticut River using specially designed containment floats with collection nets (pictured below). These floats will be easily visible to boaters and recreators. They are bright yellow, circular, 4ft in diameter, and anchored in place. Inside the float will contain the invasive plant, hydrilla, actively being studied.



Connecticut River Hydrilla
Hydrilla verticillata subsp. *lithuanica*



PICTURED: specially designed containment float

STUDY DATES

Begins: August 2026

4-5 floats are placed in their designated locations.

Ends: November 2026

Floats and hydrilla are collected from the site.

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT:

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