

Have you seen this invasive plant?

Parrotfeather is an escaped ornamental and aquarium plant that can alter aquatic ecosystems by forming dense mats of vegetation.

Learn more at www.nwcb.wa.gov

Parrotfeather is a rooted, perennial, aquatic plant. It grows submersed in water and has stems that resemble small fir trees emerging up to a foot above the water surface.



It has two types of feather-like leaves: submersed and emergent. Submersed leaves, if present, are limp and may be decaying. Emergent leaves are stiff, 3/4-2 inches long and in whorls of 3-6 at each leaf node. While submersed growth can look like other milfoil species, the emergent leaves are distinctive.



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King County NWCB

It has inconspicuous, white flowers that grow from where the leaves attach to the stem. Flowers have 4 white petal-like sepals. Plants in North America only have female flowers.

Why is parrotfeather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) a noxious weed?

- Parrotfeather grows rapidly, forming dense mats that shade out native aquatic species.
- It can clog irrigation and drainage canals and impact water recreational activities.
- Infestations can also create mosquito larvae habitat.

Where do you find parrotfeather?

- Parrotfeather grows in a variety of freshwater habitats including lakes, ponds and streams. It does well in nutrient rich waters and is adapted to water level fluctuations. It can also grow on wet soil along shorelines.
- Found in western Washington counties, it is also now in eastern Washington counties—Asotin, Yakima and Benton.

What can you do?

- Learn to identify this Class B noxious weed.
- Do not dump fish tanks and aquarium plants into natural water systems.
- Control of parrotfeather is required in a number of Washington counties. Contact your local county noxious weed control board for more information.
- Report any sightings to your county noxious weed control board or to noxiousweeds@agr.wa.gov.



Washington State
**Noxious Weed
Control Board**



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