





SOFT-STEMMED BULRUSH

Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani

Habitat Preference

Found in standing water up to 3 feet deep along lake and pond margins, and may form dense stands.

Characteristics

Vegetative

Perennial, herbaceous plant that grows up to ten feet tall. The leaves are highly modified into long sheaths that closely girdle stem bases.

Flowers

Open inflorescence of many stalked, budlike spikelets, covered by reddish brown scales below the top of the stem.

Fruit

Brownish gray achene.

Ecological Contributions to Lake Champlain

- Seeds of soft-stemmed bulrush are an important food source for waterfowl.
- Used to reduce pollutant loads carried by storm water runoff in urban wetlands.
- Bulrush forms a buffer against wind and wave action, thus permitting other aquatic plants to grow in an otherwise unfavorable environment.



Scan to learn more
about native
aquatic plants in
Lake Champlain!



THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN FUNDED WHOLLY OR IN PART BY THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT LC09A007070 TO NEIWPCC IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LAKE CHAMPLAIN BASIN PROGRAM.