





AMERICAN EELGRASS

Vallisneria americana

Habitat Preference

Can tolerate sun to part shade. Grows in mucky soil in water less than about seven feet deep on edges of lakes and ponds. Found in marshes and slow-moving rivers and streams.

Characteristics

Vegetative

Linear flat submerged leaf less than 1 inch wide and several feet long, often washes ashore in clumps.

Flowers

Female flowers are held by a long, coiled peduncle (flower stalk), which uncoils to lift the flower to the water surface. Male flowers are tiny and produced in a capsule hidden among the leaves at the base of the plant.

Ecological Contributions to Lake Champlain

- Provides food and shelter for a wide variety of wildlife, including waterfowl, shorebirds, fish and muskrats.
- Helps play a role in biogeochemical processing.
- Stabilizes sediment.



THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN FUNDED WHOLLY OR IN PART BY THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT (LC00A007070) TO NEWPCC IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LAKE CHAMPLAIN BASIN PROGRAM.



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

