

AQUATIC PLANTS

Section 3.4 of the Otter Lake Sustainable Lake Plan deals with Aquatic Plants, both indigenous (native) and invasive species.

Goals – Identify, monitor and control (where possible) aquatic plant species.

Aquatic plants and algae play a huge role in the health of a lake and it is vitally important to ensure that a natural level of indigenous aquatic plants are present in Otter Lake; an overabundance or lack of these plants and algae can have far reaching consequences on the lake environment and affect the beauty, purpose and use of the lake. It is equally important to keep invasive species out of our lake. Everyone who lives and plays on Otter Lake has a stake in the health of Otter Lake and are encouraged to report any observations or concerns pertaining to aquatic plants and algae – OLLA@otterlake.org

In July 2017 a survey was undertaken with the help of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) and Otter Lake was found to have a level of



European Frogbit



July 2016 Aquatic Plant Survey

indigenous plants to support a healthy lake. That survey also discovered European Frogbit, an invasive species, at the mouth of Otter Creek and across from the boat launch marshy area between the island and Highway 15. (See link to aquatic plant maps below.) In August 2017 a one-day eradication project took place to remove the European Frogbit, however this will need to be an ongoing annual project.

Two objectives are set out in Section 3.4 of the Lake Plan with a total of 9 action items identified. The status of the action items can be found in the Summary of Action Items document (link on main Lake Plan page).

QUICK LINKS to educational and informative documents, presentations and websites:

Native aquatic plants in Otter Lake

https://www.otterlake.org/pdf_files/native_plants_map.pdf

Invasive plant Species in Otter Lake

https://www.otterlake.org/pdf_files/invasive_species_map.pdf

Aquatic Plants Presentation, OLLA Picnic June 2016

https://www.otterlake.org/pdf_files/lake_plan_presentation_2016.pdf

Aquatic Plants Presentation, OLLA AGM July 2016

https://www.otterlake.org/pdf_files/plants_presentation.pdf

Aquatic Plants Information Sheet

https://www.otterlake.org/pdf_files/aquatic_plants_info.pdf

European Frogbit Fact Sheet

https://www.otterlake.org/pdf_files/frogbit_facts.pdf

Aquatic Plants: <http://invadingspecies.com/invaders/plants-aquatic/>

Invading Species Hotline: 1-800-563-7711

Blue/Green Algae: Spills Action Centre: 1-800-268-606

Other Algae Blooms: <http://rvca.ca/programs/algae-watch/index.html>

<https://waterrangers.ca/en>

