



# Hydrilla Hunter Happenings

July-August 2015



## VOLUNTEER MONITORS NEEDED!

**HYDRILLA VERTICILLATA**, a highly invasive plant that has radically impacted the fisheries, recreation and appearance of waterways around the country, was discovered in Ithaca's Cayuga Inlet in 2011. Eradication efforts are underway, but small patches of hydrilla have been found, and removed, from the southern end of the lake. During 2015 it is critical that any new infestations be spotted and removed rapidly.

**Volunteers are needed NOW to monitor Cayuga and neighboring lakes for Hydrilla and other species of concern.**

The **CAYUGA LAKE FLOATING CLASSROOM** is offering **free** training and survey cruises, from points around Cayuga Lake during 2015. Each cruise includes an overview of Hydrilla & other invasive species threatening the Finger Lakes, hands-on training on collection and identification of species and info on to report lake observations. Participants get to spend time on the lake, meeting great people!

### Training cruises are scheduled for:

- Tuesday, July 28, 9:00am-noon, from Ithaca.
- Tuesday August 18, 4:00-7:00pm, from Cayuga, NY
- Wednesday, August 19, 9:00am-noon, from Sheldrake
- Monday, August 31, 4:00-7:00pm, from Aurora, NY

To sign up, or find additional dates and locations, see [www.ithacaboattours.com](http://www.ithacaboattours.com), visit [www.floatingclassroom.net](http://www.floatingclassroom.net) or call (607) 216-2238.



### NEWS UPDATE! Bill Foster reports:

"The FC completed two three-hour cruise programs during July, with 29 volunteers participating, in addition to our own crew and interns. Each program began with an introduction to invasive species and the discovery of Hydrilla on the Cayuga Inlet and what it might mean for the Finger Lakes. After that, participants practiced aquatic plant collection and identification techniques. Over the course of the two cruises, plant samples were cataloged for 16 survey sites. The data has been sent to the Finger Lakes Institute to test a soon-to-be available volunteer monitoring webpage where community members can view and upload observations."

### Want a Hydrilla I.D. Kit? It's easy to identify and report Hydrilla.

Contact [steward@cayugalake.org](mailto:steward@cayugalake.org) and provide your name and mailing address.

We'll send you five kits (free), for you and your neighbors.

Help us find it early before it becomes a \$\$ problem in your area.

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