



**Date:** September 10-12, 2024

**Location:** New Jersey School of Conservation  
1 Wapalanne Rd, Sandyston, NJ 07826

## Agenda

**Tuesday, September 10, 2024**

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM – **Arrival and Cabin Check-in**

12:00 PM **Pizza Lunch** (XX room) – **Sponsored by XX**

1:00 PM **Plant Camp Begins**

- All Day: ***Native and Invasive Aquatic Plant Identification*** - Live specimens collected in the Northeast will be on hand for the entire duration of the Workshop. There will be time during breaks, meals, and before/after sessions to view these specimens.
- 1:00 PM – 1:15 PM - ***Welcome, Staff Introductions & Housekeeping***
- 1:15 PM – 1:45 PM - ***Aquatic Plant Camp Overview and Introduction*** - An overview classroom session about aquatic plant identification. Topics include Tips and Strategies on aquatic plant identification, aquatic plant structure review, and logistics for the rest of the workshop. **Instructors:** Chris Doyle (Naiad Consultants) and Emily Mayer (NJDEP)
- 1:45 PM – 2:30 PM – ***Aquatic Plant Taxonomy 1: Aquatic Invasive Plants and their Look-A-Likes*** - A classroom session on the identification and ecology of invasive aquatic plants that occur in the

Northeast. This will include information on invasive species taxonomy, control options and associating each invasive with native aquatic plant look-a-likes. **Instructor:** Chris Doyle (Naiad Consultants)

- 2:30 PM – 3:00 PM – **BREAK/SPECIMEN VIEWING**
- 3:00 PM – 3:45 PM – ***Aquatic Plant Taxonomy 2: Water Milfoils and Friends (Bladderworts, Hornworts, and Naiads)*** - A classroom session on the identification and ecology of water milfoils that occur in the Northeast. This session will also include the diverse bladderworts, hornworts, and naiads of the region. **Instructor:** Emily Mayer (NJDEP)
- 3:45 PM – 4:15 PM - ***Aquatic Plant Survey Methods, with a Focus on Point Intercept Methods*** – A classroom session review of several methods to survey aquatic plants. Methods to be briefly discussed include visual surveys, enhanced visual surveys, biomass surveys, line transect surveys, bioacoustics surveys, and remote sensing surveys. The rest of the presentation will focus on Point Intercept Methods (PIM). **Instructor:** Chris Doyle (Naiad Consultants)
- 4:15 PM – 4:30 PM - Short Walk to onsite Lake
- 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM – ***Simulated Point Intercept Method Aquatic Plant Survey*** – Get in a canoe and simulate collecting data for an aquatic plant survey using Point Intercept Methods (PIM).  
**Instructors:** All

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM – DINNER

8:00 PM - ? – BONFIRE/NETWORKING

### Wednesday, September 11, 2024

7:00 – 8:00 AM - ***Breakfast***

8:00 AM **Plant Camp Begins**

- All Day: ***Native and Invasive Aquatic Plant Identification*** - Live specimens collected in the Northeast will be on hand for the entire duration of the Workshop. There will be time during breaks, meals, and before/after sessions to view these specimens.
- 8:00 AM – 8:45 AM – ***Aquatic Plant Taxonomy 3: Pondweeds of the Northeast***- A classroom session on the identification and ecology of pondweeds that occur in the Northeast. The pondweeds

are a very diverse group of plants that can be difficult to identify due to plasticity and hybridization. The presentation will focus on commonly occurring pondweeds, but will also touch on less common species that occur in the region. **Instructor:** Chris Doyle (Naiad Consultants)

- 8:45 – 9:30 AM: ***Aquatic Taxonomy 4: Floating-leaf Plants and Isle of Misfits Plants of the Northeast*** - A classroom session on the identification and ecology of floating-leaf aquatic plants (water lilies), and free-floating aquatic plants (duckweeds and watermeal) that occur in the Northeast. This session will wrap up with all the plants that do not fit in any other category (such as wild celery, water stargrass, etc.). **Instructor:** Emily Mayer (NJDEP).

- 9:30 – 10:30 AM: Travel to Big Swartswood Lake

**Location:** 940 County Route 521, Newton, NJ

- 10:30 – 12:00 PM: ***Big Swartswood Lake South Car-Top Launch Site*** – Get on the water at a New Jersey Lake with high Aquatic Plant Diversity, including several RTE species. Or locate plants from the shoreline with boots and waders. Try to find all the aquatic plant species on our historical list. Collect samples. **Instructors:** All

- 12:00 – 1:00 PM - ***Move to Camp Hoover Site and Box Lunch***

**Location:** 961 County Route 521, Newton, NJ

- 1:00 – 3:30 PM – ***On the Water at Big Swartswood Lake*** – Using on-site canoes, continue on-water surveys of Big Swartswood Lake. Try to find all of the aquatic plant species on our historic list. Collect Samples. Conduct a simulated Point Intercept Method survey using abundance protocols for a historical comparison. **Instructors:** All

- 3:30 – 4:00 PM: (OPTIONAL) – ***Move to North Shore House Parking Lot*** – Find even more aquatic plants (American Lotus?) at this northern location on Big Swartswood Lake. **Instructors:** All

- 4:00 – 5:00 PM ***Return to New Jersey School of Conservation***

- 5:30 – 6:15 PM DINNER

- 6:30 – 8:30 PM – ***Aquatic Plant Camp Olympics*** – Join us for the first ever Plant Camp Olympics. Test your paddling skills, rake

tossing distance and accuracy, and other skill challenges.  
**Instructors:** New Jersey Water Supply Authority Staff

- 9:00 PM Bonfire/Networking

## Thursday, September 12, 2024

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM - **Breakfast**

8:00 AM **Plant Camp Begins**

- All Day: **Native and Invasive Aquatic Plant Identification** - Live specimens collected in the Northeast will be on hand for the entire duration of the Workshop. There will be time during breaks, meals, and before/after sessions to view these specimens.
- 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM – **Aquatic Plant Management Options** – A classroom session detailed review of the common methods to control aquatic plants, using the recently revised *Practical Guide to Lake Management in Massachusetts*. There should be plenty of time for questions and participation. **Instructor:** Dr. Ken Wagner (Water Resource Services).
- 9:30 – 10:00 AM – **Aquatic Plant Management Presentation 1: Management + Plant Surveys = A Palliative Care Story** – How plant surveys can and need to change and adapt after management efforts. How do you count plants that are slowly dying, floating, or burnt out, but you can still tell what they are. **Instructor:** Nicole White (Little Bear Consulting).
- 10:00 – 10:30 AM - Break/View Specimens
- 10:30 – 11:00 AM - **Aquatic Plant Management Presentation 2: Striking a Balance: 8 Years of SAV Management at Sleepy Hollow Lake, NY**. Find out how lake managers balance the conflicting needs of lake users and ecosystem function when managing aquatic plants? A case study of continuously adapting SAV management strategies will be reviewed. **Instructor:** Jesse Smith (Princeton Hydro).
- 11:00 – 11:30 AM - **Aquatic Plant Management Presentation 3: Past, Present, and Forever: Hydrilla Management and Monitoring in the Delaware and Raritan Canal**. The dense hydrilla growth in NJ's 60-mile Delaware and Raritan Canal led to an intensive monitoring and management effort starting in 2016. Due to the Canal's primary function as a public water supply transmission complex and the

constant threat of re-introduction from the Delaware River, this project has included intensive submerged aquatic vegetation surveys, visual surveys, and water quality monitoring. **Instructor:** Heather Desko (New Jersey Water Supply Authority).

- 11:30 – 12:00 PM – ***Aquatic Plant Quiz/Big Swartswood Lake Data Review***. One last chance to see the collected specimens. Take the Aquatic Plant Quiz (prizes to be awarded?! Review the Big Swartswood Lake data collected yesterday and compare to 2018 data. **Instructors:** All

12:00 PM ***Lunch – Plant Camp Wrap Up and Evaluation***

1:00 PM ***Plant Camp Adjourned***

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM ***Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Board of Directors Meeting***

***Plant Camp Instructors:***

Chris Doyle, Naiad Consultants

Emily Mayer, NJDEP

Ken Wagner, Water Resource Services

Heather Desko, New Jersey Water Supply Authority

Nicole White, Little Bear Consulting

Jesse Smith, Princeton Hydro

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