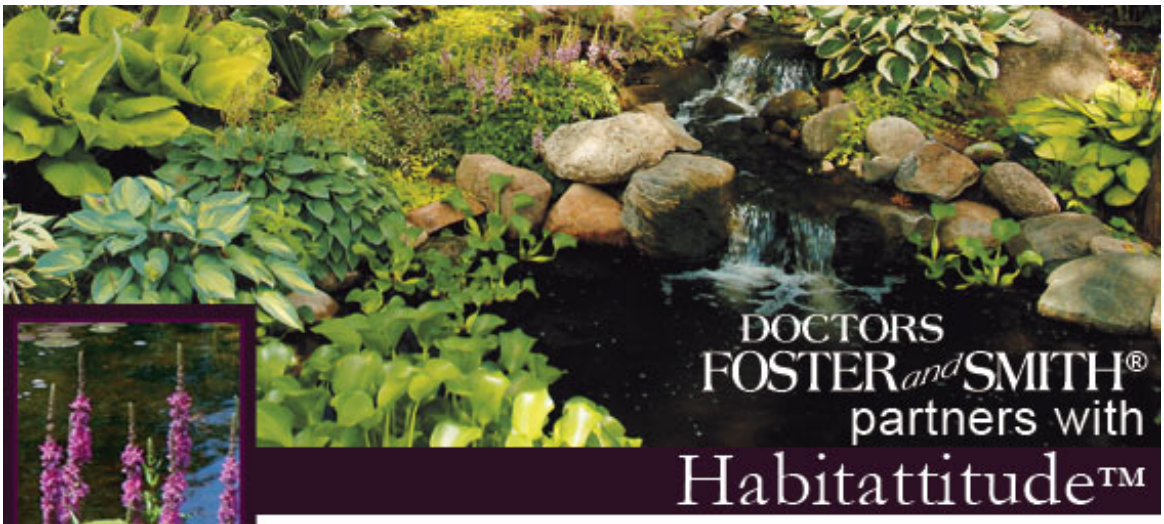
Prevent the Introduction and Spread of Invasive Species

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff



Possible invasive species that may be on a watch list for your area may include:
Yellow Iris
Hydrilla
Water Hyacinth
Hybrid Water Lily
Purple Loosestrife
European Frogbit
Giant Salvinia
Flowering Rush
Indian Swampweed
Water Velvet
Ambulia
Water Chestnut
Parrot Feather
Yellow Floating Heart
Fanwort
Curly-Leaf Pondweed
Eurasian Water Milfoil

Being a responsible hobbyist extends beyond your pond or water garden. It includes an awareness of how the release of certain plants, fish and other animals may have a potentially harmful effect on local aquatic ecosystems.

Drs. Foster and Smith is a proud partner of Habitattitude™, an ANS (Aquatic Nuisance Species) Task Force partnership representing the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) National Sea Grant College Program.

Certain pond plants or animals may be classified as Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in your area. If these species are inadvertently released into the local waterways and become established, they can have a potentially negative impact on your local environment. They can crowd out native species and damage local habitat for native fish, birds, insects, and amphibians.

We encourage the responsible enjoyment of pond keeping and water gardening. The following are some simple steps you can take to help protect your local wetlands and waterways:

- **Never release** any pond or water garden plants or fish into local lakes and streams. If you have acquired undesirable aquatic plants or fish species for your pond or water garden, it is important not to release these into the environment. Responsible options include trade with or give to another pond keeper, donate to a school's biology department, or if possible, sell or return to your local shop.

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- **Prevent the spread** of invasive plants through proper disposal methods. Proper disposal of unwanted plants includes drying, burning, composting or sealing in a plastic bag for disposal in household trash.

- **Learn to recognize** commonly-used species that are potentially invasive. Many localities now have AIS Coordinators who create watch lists of possible invasive species and educate citizens about the ways they are spread. Drs. Foster and Smith LiveAquaria.com will not ship species that are listed by the Department of Natural Resources as invasive to your state.

Visit http://www.habitattitude.com/ to learn more.

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