

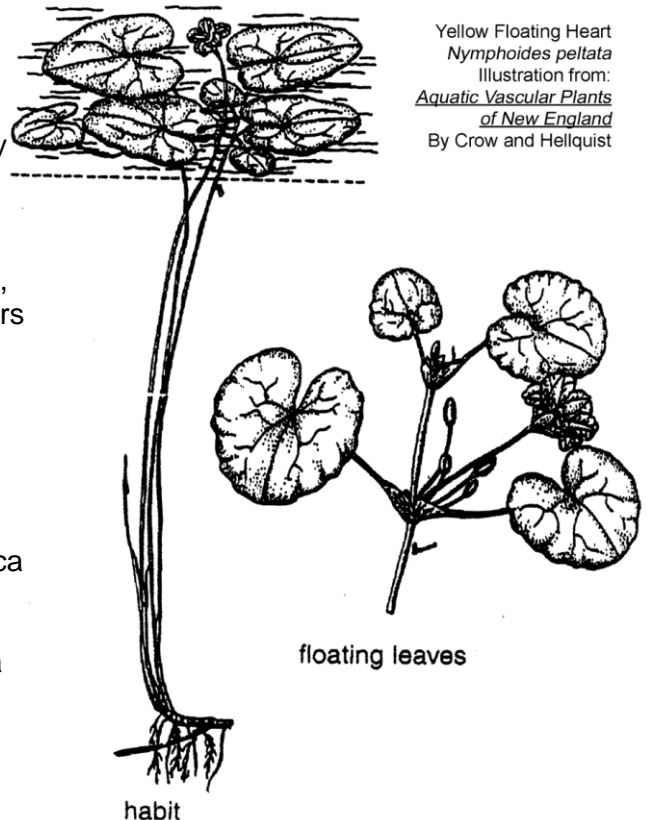
BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR: YELLOW FLOATING HEART



Habitat: Yellow floating heart is a bottom-rooted perennial that produces branched stolons just below the water surface. Each rooted stem supports a loosely branched group of several leaves. The leaves are nearly round to heart-shaped. The leaves are typically wavy (shallowly scalloped) along the outer edges and have purplish undersides. Leaves average 3 to 10 cm in diameter. The flowers are showy (3 to 4 cm in diameter), bright yellow with five distinctly fringed petals. The flowers are larger and showier than those of the native small yellow pond lily. The fruit capsule is 2.5 cm long and contains numerous seeds. The seeds are oval and flat (about 3.5 mm long) and hairy along their outer edges.

Origin and Range: Yellow floating heart is native to parts of Europe and Asia. It is not native to North America and was introduced to this country as an ornamental pond species. Currently, it is commonly sold for water gardens, and can establish if carelessly discarded into a water body. Moreover, it is paramount that this plant not be planted in any lakes or natural water bodies.

Annual Cycle: Yellow floating heart flowers between June and August. Reproduction may occur vegetatively by rhizome or by seed. Many floating leaved plants lack the ability to propagate by stem fragmentation, but in the case of yellow floating heart, broken leaves with attached stem parts will form new plants. Viable seeds are produced abundantly and germinate readily. Seed hairs help the seeds float and aid their attachment to waterfowl increasing possibility of spread to new areas.



Yellow Floating Heart
Nymphoides peltata
Illustration from:
*Aquatic Vascular Plants
of New England*
By Crow and Hellquist

What to do if you see Yellow Floating Heart:

1.) Get a sample of the plant and take it to the nearest DNR Service Center.

or

2.) Call the Department of Natural Resources with the location.

