



Spiny Naiad Fact Sheet

What is Spiny Naiad?

- Spiny Naiads is an invasive aquatic plant that grows and clusters in lake bottoms, and as it develops, breaks loose and floats to the surface
- So far, the infestation of the plant at Canyon Lake has remained at manageable levels

Why is it considered a nuisance?

Spiny Naiad can become a nuisance given its capability to:

- Spread rapidly and completely cover a lake bottom
- Out-compete native plant species for space
- If it grows an excess, it can create conditions detrimental to native fish and waterfowl (When dense spiny naiad formations decay, these may lower water oxygen levels)
- Interfere with recreational activities such as boating, swimming, and fishing



Photo Courtesy of The Friday Flyer

How is it spread?

- Spiny Naiad is spread through natural watershed flow, migrating waterfowl, as well as boating and fishing activities
- As the plant carries seeds and is naturally brittle, it can spread very easily if broken apart
- Pieces of Spiny Naiad can easily attach to boats (bilge water), trailers, equipment and even by water movement, birds and waterfowl

How can it be controlled?

- Prevention is the best course of action
- Due to its easy fragmentation – which is a means of their production – careful surface
- In maintaining safe water practices, it is not recommended that these plants be treated with chemicals if they grow in drinking reservoirs like Canyon Lake

How can you help prevent Spiny Naiad?

- Inspect vessels carefully before and after use
- Remove all weed and plant fragments from watercraft and trailers before and after use
- Drain boats and motors far from water; allowing them to dry before their next use
- Clean off all waders, boots and gear after use in any water body
- Abstain from releasing bait or aquarium fish, shellfish or plants