

# Potamogeton richardsonii

Clasping Leaf Pondweed

Native to Maine

Freshwater  
Ponds and Lakes

## Leaves



Vic Ramey, University of Florida

PERMITTED USE

Look for leaves that are up to 5 to 12 cm long, wavy and blade-shaped. They wrap almost all the way around the stem and have smooth edges.

PLANT COMMUNITY	LEAF ARRANGEMENT	LEAF SHAPE	LEAF EDGE
 EMERGENT	 ALTERNATE	 ELLIPTICAL	 FEATHER DIVIDED
 FLOATING LEAF	 OPPOSITE	 BLADE	 TOOTHED
 SUBMERSED	 WHORLED	 ELONGATE	 SMOOTH

## Plant



Vic Ramey, University of Florida

PERMITTED USE

Look for a plant with long branching stems growing underwater.

## Stem

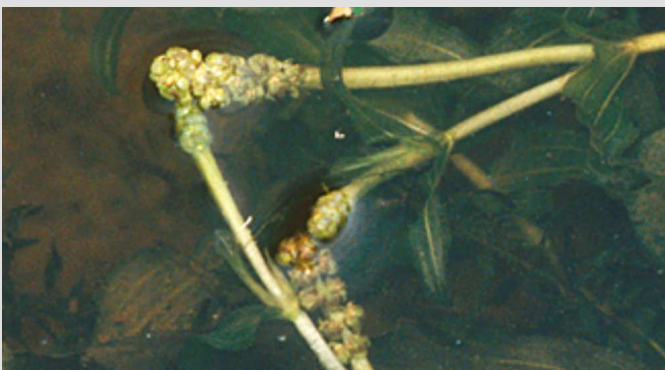


Vic Ramey, University of Florida

PERMITTED USE

Look for stems that are up to 4 m long, 2 to 3 cm thick and round.

## Seasonal Change



Vic Ramey, University of Florida

PERMITTED USE

In July look for flowers that appear in tight clusters and rise above the water on a straight stem.

[www.vitalsignsme.org](http://www.vitalsignsme.org)

## Similar Species

You can tell Clasping Leaf Pondweed from the invasive Curly Leaf Pondweed by looking at the leaves. Clasping Leaf Pondweed has a wider leaf that wraps almost all the way around the stem. It looks like the leaf is clasping, or hugging, the stem.

## Fun Fact

Some animals eat the fruits of Clasping Leaf Pondweed, such as ducks and geese. Other animals, such as muskrats, deer, beavers, and moose, eat the plant itself.