

# 2013 INVASIVE PLANT PATROL UPDATES

## Mark your calendar for VLMP's Annual Conference!

The Conference will be held on **Saturday, July 27, 2013** at the Great Outdoors on Pleasant Pond in Turner. Come enjoy the company of lake-minded people from across the state. Please contact VLMP at [vlmp@mainevlmp.org](mailto:vlmp@mainevlmp.org) or 207-783-7733 to register.



## 2012 Maine Lakes Report is now available

The annual *Maine Lakes Report* provides a wealth of information about Maine lakes and ponds. The report includes water quality and invasive species screening summaries for the hundreds of lakes now in the program. If you would like to receive a hard copy of the full publication (which includes the 2012 IAP screening survey and IPP volunteer data) please contact us. You may also view the full color version on line at [www.mainevlmp.org](http://www.mainevlmp.org)

## VLMP website gets a makeover

The VLMP website is undergoing major renovations. Besides a fresh new look, improvements to the website will include: simpler, more intuitive navigation; more photo galleries and video (we envision a growing library of volunteer monitor training videos); better linkage between the VLMP and *Lakes of Maine* websites; the *Virtual Herbarium* will be back, expanded to include many more native plants images; communication and collaboration between users will be enhanced through the *Lake Monitors Forum*, *Lake Events Calendar* and the *IPP Leaders' Exchange*. The new website will be formally launched later this spring.



## Two new Smartphone Apps coming in 2013!

The *Maine Field Guide to Aquatic Phenomena* will utilize smartphone technology in the form of an "app" to help users identify both common aquatic phenomena and potentially problematic invasive species. The app will draw upon existing publications including *A Field Guide to*

*Aquatic Phenomena* and the *VLMP Quick Key to Ruling Out Invasive Aquatic Plants*. This app will provide engaging, timely and useful lake information to a much larger audience than has been previously possible. We anticipate that the app will be used by volunteer lake monitors, researchers, technologically-savvy youth, shorefront property owners, anglers, boaters and many more.

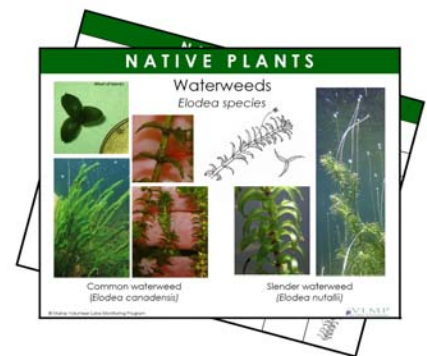
The *Lakes of Maine* app will allow users to obtain a wide array of lake data from wherever they are. Have you ever been out on a lake and wondered what the average secchi reading is, which fish species live in the lake, or whether or not Chinese mystery snails have been reported there? You are going to love the new *Lakes of Maine* app! Both apps will be available to users across a number of platforms, including desktop, laptop, tablet and smart phones.

## New and updated tools for Invasive Plant Patrollers

### *Invasive Plant Patrol Aquatic Species Identification Cards*

– a set of sixteen 3.5" x 4.5" full color plant ID cards, covering 24 native plant species and 5 invasive plant species. The cards are bound by a split ring and hung on a carabineer.

*IPP Flip Book* – a set of larger format (8.5" x 11") plant identification cards, spiral bound and arranged specifically for use as a visual aid during Plant Paddles and other outdoor educational events. As Plant Paddle leaders flip through the book, the pictures for each plant appear to the audience, as the vital statistics for each plant appears on the flip-side of the book, for the leader.



*Quick Key to Ruling Out Maine's Eleven Most Unwanted Invasive Aquatic Plants* – the ever popular Quick Key is getting even "quicker" and more user-friendly in 2013!

*Maine Field Guide to Invasive Aquatic Plants* - The revised second edition of this nationally recognized publication will be available in time for the 2014 field season.

Please contact the VLMP for more information on new IPP resources.

## The Hunt for Aquatic Invaders

The VLMP's new documentary, featuring the 2012 Moosehead Lake IPP Jump Start Team is coming soon to a venue near you! We'll keep you posted!