
Concern Regarding Possible Invasive Aquatic Plant – Ore Hill Pond, Lakeville

From Hilary Yunis <hilaryyunis@gmail.com>

Date Mon 8/10/2026 2:32 PM

To Conservation Commission <conservationcommission@salisburyct.us>

Cc Land Use <landuse@salisburyct.us>; Jonathan Yunis MD <jonathanyunis@gmail.com>; Hilary Yunis <hilaryyunis@gmail.com>

Dear Salisbury Conservation Commission and Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission,

I am a resident on Ore Hill Pond in Lakeville and am reaching out because I have recently noticed a significant amount of submerged aquatic vegetation growing in the pond that I am concerned may be an invasive watermilfoil species.

Ore Hill Pond is approximately 12 acres and has very clear, almost bluish-green water and a substantial fish population. I first noticed the plant growing along portions of the shoreline, but I have now observed a fairly large area of growth farther out toward the middle of the pond. At this point, the vegetation is still submerged and has not formed mats at the surface.

I have attached several photographs of specimens I collected, including close-ups of the stems, individual leaves and growing tips. The plant appears to be a species of watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum*). Because Eurasian watermilfoil is known to occur in nearby Twin Lakes, I am concerned that we may be seeing the same invasive species in Ore Hill Pond. I understand that native watermilfoils can look very similar, so I do not want to make that assumption without professional identification.

I would greatly appreciate your guidance on the following:

- Has Ore Hill Pond previously been surveyed for aquatic invasive plants, and is there any record of Eurasian watermilfoil or other invasive aquatic vegetation there?
- Would the Town be able to help arrange or recommend a professional identification of this specimen?
- Should I also submit a specimen or report directly to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station's Office of Aquatic Invasive Species or Connecticut DEEP?
- If an invasive species is confirmed, what local or regional resources would be available to assess the extent of the growth and determine appropriate next steps?

Because the vegetation already appears to occupy a noticeable area of the pond, I would like to address it promptly if it is invasive, while also being careful not to disturb what could be beneficial native vegetation.

I would be very happy to provide additional photographs, a fresh specimen, the approximate locations of the beds, or access to the pond if that would be helpful.

Thank you very much for your guidance and for your work protecting Salisbury's lakes, ponds and wetlands.

Warmly,

Hilary Yunis

Lakeville, Connecticut

9417303510

Please note I do not have a sample of the species that is in the center of the pond that is take over a large portion of the pond.















