



Explanation of DEQ-Format Lake Vegetation Maps and Summary Sheets

The maps are in a standard format as required by the Michigan Department of Environment Quality (DEQ). The maps divide the parts of the lake capable of growing aquatic plants into subareas and record the cover of each aquatic plant species found in each area. Vegetation summary sheets summarize the information from the maps in a form that the DEQ uses to make decisions about permits.

Notations on the map are interpreted as follows:

Number (= plant species) Letter (=approximate cover of this plant)

For Example:

“1b” indicates plant species #1 at a density of b

Species are usually numbered according to a standardized numbering system (at right). We often reproduce the species number key and species name abbreviations on the map itself. The cover codes a, b, c and d are used to describe the approximate coverage of each plant within the map area, as described in the following table.

Cover Code	Approximate Cover Range
a	1-2%
b	3-20%
c	21-60%
d	61-100%

Thus the example “1b” refers to Eurasian watermilfoil covering between 3 and 20 percent of the area of the lake in which this code appears.

Shading on the map is used to identify areas of overall plant coverage, locations of problem exotic species or areas requiring management. A key on the map should indicate exactly what is indicated by shading.

No	Plant Name
1	Eurasian watermilfoil
2	Curly leaf pondweed
3	Chara
4	Thinleaf pondweed
5	Flatstem pondweed
6	Robbins pondweed
7	Variable pondweed
8	White stem pondweed
9	Richardsons pondweed
10	Illinois pondweed
11	Large leaf pondweed
12	American pondweed
13	Floating leaf pondweed
14	Water stargrass
15	Wild celery
16	Sagittaria (submersed)
17	Northern watermilfoil
18	Green watermilfoil
19	Two-leaved watermilfoil
20	Coontail
21	Elodea
22	Bladderwort
23	Mini Bladderwort
24	Buttercup
25	Naiad
26	Brittle naiad
27	Sago Pondweed
28	Cabomba
29	Starry stonewort
30	Water Lily
31	Spatterdock
32	Water shield
33	Lemna minor
34	Greater duckweed
35	Watermeal
36	Arrowhead
37	Pickereelweed
38	Arrow arum
39	Cattail
40	Bulrush
41	Iris
42	Swamp loosestrife
43	Purple loosestrife
44	Phragmites