



**WATER CELERY**



**WATER MILFOIL**



**WATER CHESTNUT**



**SALTWATER CORDGRASS**



**NARROW-LEAVED CATTAIL**



**COMMON REED**

**PLANTS of the HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY**

## WATER MILFOIL

What is it? *Myriophyllum spicatum* is a flowering plant

How big is it? stems up to 15 ft. long

What eats it? sometimes eaten by ducks

Where does it live? submerged in fresh water; rivers, ponds, lakes, & marshes

What is its life cycle? grows from seed, but mostly spreads as new plants grow from pieces of existing milfoil plants

## WATER CELERY

What is it? *Vallisneria americana* is a flowering plant

How big is it? leaves up to 7 ft. long

What eats it? excellent duck food; also eaten by muskrats

Where does it live? submerged in fresh and brackish water; rivers, ponds, lakes, marshes, estuaries

What is its life cycle? grows from seed, also spreads as shoots & roots expand outward from existing beds

## SALTWATER CORDGRASS

What is it? *Spartina alterniflora* is a flowering plant

How big is it? up to 5 ft tall

What eats it? ducks and muskrats

Where does it live? marshes in salt & brackish water, edges of estuaries; grows above water in intertidal zone

What is its life cycle? grows from seed, also spreads as shoots & roots expand outward from existing beds

## WATER CHESTNUT

What is it? *Trapa natans* is a flowering plant

How big is it? floating circle of leaves up to 10 in. in diameter; underwater stems up to 8 ft. long

What eats it? insects; squirrels eat seeds

Where does it live? fresh water of rivers, ponds, & lakes

What is its life cycle? grows from nut-like seed; also spreads as floating leaves break off & drift to new locations

## COMMON REED

What is it? *Phragmites australis* is a flowering plant

How big is it? up to 13 ft. tall

What eats it? insects; sometimes ducks & muskrats

Where does it live? marshes in fresh & brackish water, edges of ponds, lakes, streams, rivers, & estuaries; grows above water in intertidal zone

What is its life cycle? grows from seed, but mostly spreads as new shoots grow from spreading root system

## NARROW-LEAVED CATTAIL

What is it? *Typha angustifolia* is a flowering plant

How big is it? up to 9 ft. tall

What eats it? excellent muskrat food; also eaten by ducks and insects

Where does it live? marshes in fresh & brackish water, edges of ponds, lakes, streams, rivers, & estuaries; grows above water in intertidal zone

What is its life cycle? grows from seed; also spreads as new plants grow from spreading root system

# PLANTS of the HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY