

Fanwort Workshop (August 2022)

Thank you to Nick (TrentU) for presenting and the MacFarquhars (MacDonald Bay) for hosting.

Fanwort is an invasive aquatic plant that was first reported in Kasshabog in 1991. The hands-on workshop was arranged to teach Kasshabogers how to properly remove Fanwort from their swimming area.

Some key points:

- Hand pull (or use a hoe rake) from the roots. Try to only pull Fanwort (and leave the native aquatic plants which are important for our lakes ecosystem).

- Use a pool skimmer (or butterfly net) to gather up all the fragments. Each fragment can start a new plant.

- Dispose of the weeds far from the shoreline (so the rain doesn't wash them back in the lake). You can dry them in the sun/add them to your leaf compost pile.

Although it is legal to remove invasive aquatic plants there are rules as to: who can remove (e.g. only the property owner); when they can be removed (e.g. only during a certain timeframe: roughly July 15th-September 15: exact dates TBC); how to remove (e.g. hand pull).

At this point, there is no expectation that Fanwort will ever be completely eradicated from Kasshabog so it's important that we all learn to recognize and reduce the spread as much as possible. If you boat into an area infested with Fanwort, be sure not to drag any of it out with you (i.e. remove it from your motor; skim up broken fragments ... scoop these and keep them in your boat for proper disposal when you back on land). Eliminate use of any product with Phosphorus and never use any fertilizer.

Fun fact – fanwort flowers open at 10:30 am and close at 4:30 pm and damsel flies use the flowers as a landing platform.



Identifying Fanwort Locations



Taking a close look at Fanwort