

# STOP THE SPREAD OF STARRY STONEWORT

Starry Stonewort (SSW) is an invasive grass-like algae which spreads rapidly and forms dense, impenetrable stands. SSW reproduces by fragmentation; any small pieces that break and are carried to a new location will spread this invasive algae.



## AQUATIC PLANTS

Starry Stonewort outcompetes other aquatic plants so that they are **unable to grow**.

## FISH & WILDLIFE

Habitats & food for fish are degraded. A **decline in fish** affects the birds and mammals that eat fish.

## RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The dense SSW mats impact **boating, swimming,** and other recreational activities on the lake.

## STARRY STONEWORT IS TOUGH TO CONTROL

**AVOID AQUATIC HERBICIDES.** SSW does not respond to any herbicide. In fact, if herbicides are used to kill off other aquatic plants, that only serves to give SSW a greater opportunity to take over.



**COMMERCIAL 'WEED HARVESTING' WILL NOT ERADICATE SSW.** In fact it actually increases the risk of fragments breaking off and spreading.



*REMEMBER: Plant removal is regulated by the Trent-Severn Waterway (Parks Canada) in the Kawarthas. A TSW permit is required to do any in-water work, apply herbicides or remove aquatic vegetation.*

## WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?

### 1 CLEAN, DRAIN & DRY

Stop and lift your boat motor and remove all vegetation when leaving an infested area.

Clean, drain & dry your boat whenever launching or trailering a boat to another lake.



Place the plants that you remove in a bucket & take to dry land away from any water for disposal.

### 2 AVOID BOATING IN AREAS WITH SSW



Avoid going in and out of areas with SSW by any kind of boat or canoe. SSW has been identified in these areas of the lake: Gilchrist Bay, Duck Pond, Mackenzie Bay, Lost Channel.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU COME ACROSS STARRY STONEWORT (or what you think might be SSW)

Contact Michelle Newton, your Environmental Council representative, at [powdergal@hotmail.com](mailto:powdergal@hotmail.com). Michelle will be happy to help you identify and create a plan to reduce the risk of spreading. For more information: [www.environmentcouncil.ca/starry-stonewort](http://www.environmentcouncil.ca/starry-stonewort)