



Photo by Eileen Fitzgerald © Lake Champlain Committee





# YELLOW POND LILY

*Nuphar variegata*

## Habitat Preference

Found in slightly acidic to basic water of lakes, slow-moving streams, and pools.

## Characteristics



### Vegetative

Slightly waxy floating leaves with smooth edges, oval to heart-shaped, flattened on one side with sometimes purple tinge, one leaf per *node* (12).

### Flowers

Six bright yellow round petals per flower. Oval fruit capsule up to 1.5 inches long, strongly ribbed and purplish, seed inside flower.

## Ecological Contributions to Lake Champlain

- Widely used food source that anchors shallow water community.
- Flowers smell like fermenting fruit which attracts pollinating insects.
- Provides shelter and food for fish, snails, crayfish, and underwater insects. Can be a host for species of beetles.

