

# STOP THE SPREAD



FLOWERING RUSH'S ATTRACTIVE FLOWERS MAKES IT A VERY POPULAR WATER GARDEN PLANT BUT IT PREVENTS THE GROWTH OF NATIVE PLANTS WHEN IT SPREADS TO NATURE.

## UNWANTED PLANTS

### Origin

Flowering rush is native to Asia, Europe, and Africa. It was brought to North America for use as a water garden plant.

### Status

First found in the United States in the 1890s it has now spread to many parts of North America. In Manitoba, it has been seen at Patricia Beach, near Lockport, and along the Assiniboine River in Winnipeg.

### Impacts

Displaces native vegetation and reduces biological diversity. Clogs irrigation canals.

### Where to Look

Found in wetlands, sedge meadows, streams, river banks, ditches, and lake shores. It can grow on wet soil, in shallow water, or be underwater.



### LOOK FOR:

- ◇ **LEAVES:** GROW ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF THE STEM AND ARE ABOUT 1 METRE LONG.
- ◇ **FLOWERS:** DEEP PINK TO WHITE IN COLOUR, ARE 2 TO 2.5CM ACROSS AND ARE ON STALKS.
- ◇ **STEMS:** RESEMBLE BULRUSHES.

### PREVENT THE SPREAD IN MANITOBA

Flowering rush is an aggressive plant that is still sold as a water garden plant. The best method to control flowering rush is to not plant it at all. Discarded plants should be burned or double bagged in garbage bags.

### Report a Sighting!

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