

## Other Aquatic invaders:

### Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*)



Common reed often grows in shallow waters in dense thickets, reaching heights of over 15 feet. It can displace native plants and block sunlight from aquatic wildlife

### Flathead Catfish (*Pylodictis olivaris*)

Flathead Catfish can grow very large and reproduce rapidly. They are voracious predators that can wipe out entire fish populations.



### Water Hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*)



Water Hyacinth forms dense mats on the water surface, restricting sunlight available for aquatic plants and invertebrates.

### Chinese Tallowtree (*Triadica sebifera*)

Also known as popcorn tree, Chinese Tallow typically grows in wet areas. It can displace native vegetation and alter soil conditions



Coastal Georgia CISMA



Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
Wildlife Resources Division

For more information about the Coastal Georgia CISMA or how to volunteer at an invasive species removal work day contact:

Eamonn Leonard  
[eamonn.leonard@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:eamonn.leonard@dnr.state.ga.us)  
912-262-3150

# INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT!

## Island Apple Snail (*Pomacea maculata*)



- Native to South America
- Recently Introduced in Southern Georgia
- Can severely alter your lake or pond and the native wildlife and vegetation that inhabit it

## Why They Are a Threat:

- **They can consume all aquatic vegetation**, leading to algae blooms which are unsightly, can produce an unpleasant aroma, and can affect water quality as well as wildlife.
- **They mature quickly**, reaching maturity at 60 – 80 days. Upon reaching maturity they can live for over 3 years.
- **They reproduce rapidly**. A single snail can produce as many as 2000 eggs every two weeks.



Apple snails vary in size, but can be as large as your fist

### ***What is an Invasive species?***

*Any plant or animal that has been introduced and aggressively competes with, and displaces, local native communities; normally having no native enemies to limit reproduction and spread.*



Apple snails lay pink egg masses on hard surfaces the waters edge. 1 – 2 weeks later the eggs hatch and the young fall into the water

## What You Can Do To Help:

- **Remove unnecessary objects** from around the water edge. These could include boats, paddles, beach toys, floats, etc...
- **Remove egg masses** from hard surfaces around the water. This can be done by simply scraping the egg masses into the water. Eggs that are submerged in water will not hatch
- **Remove live snails**, and dispatch them. They should be frozen before disposing of them. Snails can often be found around the edge of ponds or in patches of vegetation

## What You Can Do to Help (continued)

- **Set up snail traps** and bait and check them weekly. For information about building or purchasing an inexpensive snail trap, visit <http://snailbusters.wordpress.com/trap/>
- **Don't release unwanted pets**. Many invasive species problems can be linked to a pet release.



Egg masses can often be found on twigs and grasses that overhang the water