

Media Release



18 May 2018

Help to stop Frogbit weed invasion

Residents are being asked to report sightings of a new weed which poses a risk to the Nepean River and Camden waterways.

A biosecurity alert has been issued for the aquatic weed known as Frogbit since it was recently discovered in the upper Georges River.

The weed is prohibited in NSW and all efforts are being made to prevent the spread of this ornamental plant used in fish ponds, aquariums and water features.

“If left unchecked, this plant could rapidly invade and smother local waterways which would threaten the health of its inhabitants,” said Mayor Lara Symkowiak.

“We are calling on the community to be vigilant and report any sightings of this weed in any river, creek or dam before it has a chance to take hold,” Cr Symkowiak said.

The weed can be identified by its smooth, rounded, fleshy green leaves up to 4 cm across, with sponge-like sections on their undersides. The plants float on the water surface.

It travels quickly and easily along water currents and is also spread by illegal dumping of aquarium material or by marine craft.

Residents are encouraged to keep an eye out for the floating plant and report any sightings, persons selling the plant, or cases of illegal dumping in waterways.

To report a sighting of Frogbit, call council’s Noxious Weed Officer on 4654 7777.

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