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Hidden Lake, Higganum



2005 Aquatic Plant Survey Map of Hidden Lake (1.5 MB, .pdf format*)

Transect Data (244 KB, .pdf format*) | Water Data

The 39 acre Hidden Lake is bordered by dense development of residential homes. A dam exists at the lake's west end. Access is limited to residents, and boats with motors are prohibited.

Aquatic plants were abundant at the time of our July 2005 survey. Submerged plants covered nearly the entire bottom of the shallow water body, and floating-leaved species were scattered through the middle of the lake, though they were most abundant at the ends of three sheltered coves. No invasive aquatic plant species were found.

Nymphaea odorata (white water lily) was the most abundant species in Hidden Lake, occurring almost continuously in the deeper water. The other floating-leaved species, Brasenia schreberi (watershield) and Nuphar variegata (yellow water lily) also were found throughout the lake but in much smaller patches.

A number of submerged plants grew under the floating-leaved species throughout the lake. The most abundant of these was *Vallisneria americana* (eel grass), which grew throughout most of the lake. *Najas flexilis* (slender naiad) and Charaphytes also were found all around the lake, but in much smaller quantities. *Potamogeton epihydrus* (ribbon-leaf pondweed), *Utricularia macrorhiza* (common bladderwort), and *Utricularia purpurea* (purple bladderwort) were found in small patches on all sides of the lake, but these species were mostly confined to the shallow water.

Other less abundant submerged plants were *Potamogeton bicupulatus* (snailseed pondweed) and *Potamogeton natans* (floating-leaf pondweed) found in the north, south and west edges of the lake and *Eleocharis acicularis* (needle spikerush) found in the south and west edges as well as one small patch in the middle of the lake with *Utricularia radiata* (floating bladderwort). *Pontederia cordata* (pickerelweed) and *Potamogeton pusillus* (small pondweed) were found on the north and west sides of the lake, and *Elatine minima* (small waterwort), *Gratiola aurea* (golden hedge-hyssop), *Isoëtes engelmannii* (Appalachian quilwort) and *Utricularia intermedia* (flat-leaf bladderwort) were only found on the west side.

Find Common Plant Names (65 KB, .pdf format*)

Species recorded in our 2005 survey of Hidden Lake. Click on plant to view herbarium mount. (invasive species in bold)

Brasenia schreberi
Charaphyte
Elatine minima
Eleocharis acicularis
Gratiola aurea
Isoëtes engelmannii
Najas flexilis
Nuphar variegata
Nymphaea odorata

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