

NOT WANTED



RUDD

**ALIAS: SCARDINIUS
ERYTHROPHthalmus**

Native: Native to Eurasia. Habitats include lakes, ponds, gravel pits, canals and slow rivers with temperatures ranging from 50 to 72° Fahrenheit. Has been found in several states and Canada.

Size: Up to 14 inches long.

Description: Has a deep blood-red eye color and 8-9 soft rays in the dorsal fin. Has a dark gray back, silver sides, and blood-red fins.

Impacts to Aquatic Ecosystem:

The rudd's potential as a pest fish is due to its consumption of aquatic plants and competition for food and space with native fish. In New Zealand, the introduction of rudd to a small put-and-take trout fishery destroyed the fishery because of the rudd's ability to outcompete trout for angler's lures. Because the fish consumes large amounts of vegetation (up to 40% of its body weight per day), it may degrade aquatic vegetation that provides spawning and nursery habitats for native fish including northern pike, muskellunge, and yellow perch. It may dilute the unique genetics of the native golden shiner, since it can hybridize with that species. It has been known to hybridize with species found in its native waters.

Means of Introduction: It is thought to be introduced by bait bucket dumping.

Status in Maryland: Currently not established in Maryland. Several possible releases from bait buckets have been reported in Western Maryland.



Look-A-Likes:

Looks similar to the Roach, although the Roach has a yellow eye color and 10-12 soft rays in the dorsal fin. Confusingly, these species can hybridize, producing intermediate forms. Also similar in appearance to the golden shiner, however golden shiner fins are yellow.

Legal Standing: Prohibited from import, transport, sale, purchase and possession in Maryland.
*Special provisions for delivering specimens to authorities, visit www.dnr.state.md.us/invasives.

For more information on invasive species in Maryland visit www.dnr.state.md.us/invasives.

