

# PROTECT YOUR POTOMAC RIVER

*Stop the spread of aquatic invasives*



**WATER CHESTNUT HAS BEEN FOUND ON THE VIRGINIA SIDE OF THE POTOMAC RIVER IN POHICK BAY. IT FLOATS AT THE SURFACE DURING LOW TIDES AND TYPICALLY OCCURS IN SMALLER COVES.**

Water chestnut (*Trapa natans*) is a floating aquatic plant native to Asia. It is an invasive species that spreads quickly, wipes out native bay grasses, prevents water access and recreation where it occurs and creates breeding grounds for mosquitoes. The seeds have four hard, half-inch spines that are sharp enough to penetrate shoe leather.

## REPORT FINDINGS TO

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