



Yellow Pond Lily (also known as Spatterdock and Cow Lily)

Nuphar polysepalum

Characteristics

Aquatic perennial (native to Eastern United States). Grows from thick massive rhizomes that grow best in water less than 6 feet deep. Leaves heart-shaped, radial notch with the stem in the center.

Flowers/Fruit

Large stigma at the center of bright yellow flower usually with 10-20 petals. Blooms summer. Spent flowers form ribbed oval capsules that rupture to free seeds.

Habitat Value

Add protection for the lake from the effects of pollution runoff and stabilize the soil along the lake's edge. Provide habitat, shelter, food, and cooling shade for fish.

Home Garden Applications

Landscape ponds provide good habitat for Water Lilies--as long as water is approximately two feet deep. Potted Water Lilies sold at garden centers can be placed directly onto the bottom of the pond. Landscape ponds provide a source of water for birds and other wildlife.