

PICKEREL LAKE

- Agalinis tenuifolia* (Vahl) Raf., **common agalinis**. c=6. Shore. 2003.
- Argentina anserina* (L.) Rydb., **silver-weed**. c=4. Shore. 2003.
- Aster lanceolatus* Willd., **white paniced aster**. c=4. Shore. 2003.
- Aster umbellatus* Miller, **flat-topped aster**. c=6. Shore. 2003.
- Bidens cernuus* L, **nodding beggar-ticks**. c=4. Shore. 1969, 2003.
- Bidens coronatus* (L.) Britton, **swamp-marigold**. c=7. Shore. 2003,
- Bidens frondosus* L., **common beggar-ticks**. c=1. Shore. 2003.
- Calamagrostis canadensis* (Michx.) Beauv., **blue-joint grass**. c=5. Shore. 2003.
- Carex arcta* Boot, **bear sedge**. c=8. Shore. 1965.
- Carex crinita* Lam., **fringed sedge**. c=6. Shore. 2003.
- Carex hystericina* Muhl., **bottlebrush sedge**. c=3. Shore. 2003.
- Carex viridula* Michx., **little green sedge**. c=6. Shore. 2003.
- Carex vulpinoidea* Michx., **fox sedge**. c=7. Shore. 2003.
- Chara* spp., **stoneworts**. [macrophytic algae]. No c value given. Submersed. 2003.
- Cyperus bipartitus* Torrey, **slender flat-sedge**. c=3. Shore. 2003.
- Cyperus odoratus* L., **fragrant nut-sedge**. c=4. Shore. 1969.
- Echinochloa muricata* (Beauv.) Fern., **rough barnyard grass**. c=1. Shore. 2003.
- Elodea canadensis* Michx., **Canadian waterweed**. c=3. Submersed. 1969, 2003.
- Epilobium ciliatum* Raf., **American willow-herb**. c=3. Shore. 2003.
- Equisetum scirpoides* Michx., **dwarf scouring-rush**. c=7. Shore. 2003.
- Eupatorium perfoliatum* L., **boneset**. c=6. Shore. 2003.
- Euthamia graminifolia* (L.) Nutt., **grass-leaved goldenrod**. c=4. Shore. 2003.
- Juncus arcticus* Willd., **wire rush**. c=5. Shore and emergent. 1976, 2003.
- Juncus canadensis* J. Gay, **Canadian rush**. c=7. Shore. 1969.
- Juncus dudleyi* Wieg., **Dudley's rush**. c=4. Shore. 2003.
- Juncus effusus* L, **common rush**. c=4. Shore. 1969.
- Juncus pelocarpus* E. Mey., **brown-fruited rush**. c=8. Shore, emergent, and submersed.
2003.
- Lobelia kalmii* L., **Kalm's lobelia**. c=9. Shore. 2003.
- Lycopus uniflorus* Michx., **northern water-horehound**. c=4. Shore. 2003.

Myriophyllum sibiricum Kom., **common water-milfoil**. c=6. Submersed. 1969, 2003.

Najas flexilis (Willd.) R. & S., **bush-pondweed**. c=6. Submersed. 2003.

Oxytropis chartacea Fassett, **Fassett's locoweed**. c=10. ENDANGERED SPECIES.
Shore. 1979, 2003.

Phalaris arundinacea L., **reed canary-grass**. alien; c=0. Shore. 2003.

Polygonum hydropiper L., **water-pepper**. alien; c=0. Shore. 2003.

Polygonum hydropiperoides Michx., **swamp smartweed**. c=6. Shore. 2003.

Potamogeton illinoensis Morong, **Illinois pondweed**. c=6. Submersed. 2003.

Potamogeton pusillus L., **small pondweed**. c=7. Submersed. 2003.

Salix exigua Nutt., **sandbar willow**. c=2. Emergent and on shore. 2003.

Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani (Gmelin) Palla, **soft-stemmed bulrush**. c=4.
Emergent. 1969, 2003.

Solidago gigantea Aiton, **late goldenrod**. c=3. Shore. 2003.

Spartina pectinata Link., **prairie cord-grass**. c=5. Shore. 1975.

Stuckenia pectinata (L.) Borner, **sago pondweed**. c=3. Submersed. 2003.

There are **42** species of aquatic macrophytes (**41** species of vascular plants plus one species of macrophytic algae) that occur in Pickerel Lake or on the west areas of the shore. This is slightly below average for Portage County lakes. The average index of conservatism (c value) is **4.7**, which is average. The floristic quality index (including the addition of 3 points for an endangered species) is **33.0**, which is slightly above average for Portage County lakes. (Refer to for information)

Pickerel Lake is surrounded by an essentially undeveloped shore. Most of the shore was purchased by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to protect Fassett's locoweed, an endangered species (treated as a subspecies or variety of the arctic yellow locoweed by some authors) which has been found on only a few lake shores, all in Wisconsin. Probably an important factor in the survival of Fassett's locoweed is the fluctuation in lake levels. The seed of the locoweed lies dormant underwater during years of high water level in the lake, when live plants of the locoweed are almost absent.

The high water also serves to drown out invading upland species, reversing plant succession. In years of lower water levels in the lakes, the locoweed seed germinates and the plant becomes fairly common for a few years until plant succession of more vigorous upland species start to crowd out the locoweed. The return of high water renews the cycle.

As of 2003 the lake level at Pickerel Lake was exceptionally low and has been low for the last few years. Many non-aquatic and aggressive alien plants are taking hold of the upper beach area. A return to high water would probably eliminate most of these invaders, except for the increased disturbance from ATV's and foot traffic which may be threatening the seed bank of locoweed, and carrying in aliens such as sweet-clover and spotted knapweed. If these and similar aliens become established, the Fassett's locoweed population could eventually be extirpated by competition from these alien species.