

## Miscellaneous Alaskan (strictly) aquatic plant families

### TYPHACEAE Cattails

*Typha*

World wide distribution. Tiny reduced unisexual flowers tightly compacted into spikes, the staminate spike narrower and above the pistillate. Emergent in shallow water. Rhizome, and immature spikes and stems are edible. Tiny fruits are wind dispersed.

### SPARGANIACEAE

Bur Reeds

*Sparganium*

Small unisexual flowers clustered into emergent, globose heads. One or more pistillate heads below, 1-2 staminate heads at top, and often deciduous early in season. Linear leaves may be submerged, emergent, and/or floating at surface.

### POTAMOGETONACEAE

Pondweeds

*Potamogeton, Zostera, Ruppia, Zannichellia, Phyllospadix*

Reduced tiny perfect flowers are clustered into globose or cylindrical spikes and may be emergent or submerged. Spikes may be axillary or terminal. Leaves linear to broad (considerable variation exists within individuals for some species), and have well-developed basal 'stipular' sheaths. *Potamogeton* is important forage for moose in late summer.

### ISOETACEAE

Quillworts

*Isoetes*

Plant consists of tufts of submerged, stiff, quill-like leaves. Sporangia produced at base of fertile leaves.

### CALLITRICHACEAE

Water Starwort Family

*Callitriche*

Small submerged plants, though a terminal tuft of leaves may be emergent. Opposite leaves on single or branching stems. Reduced perfect (stamens lost early) flowers in axils of leaves.

### LEMNACEAE

Duckweeds

*Lemna*

Tiny floating flat clusters of leaves on surface of quiet water. Flowers inconspicuous and usually lacking in our region.

Don't forget! Several of the families we have covered, and a few we haven't, also include a few aquatic species.