Water Chestnut

This aquatic annual plant forms dense matts on the surface of the water, suffocating wildlife, pushing out native vegetation and blocking water ways for recreation. Its rosette grows glossy, triangular green leaves with toothed edges on the surface, resembling a strawberry bush. In July, it starts growing large green seeds with four sharp spines. By August and September, the seeds harden and drop, creating the next generation of water chestnut. The plant dies off in the fall and winter after dropping all its seeds.

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