

Never release aquatic plants or animals into waterways!



- Inspect purchases and remove unwanted eggs, animals, seeds, plants or plant parts.
- Dispose of debris and unwanted aquatic plants and packaging material in a sealed plastic bag in the trash. If possible, freeze the bag before disposal.
- Sterilize waste water (¼ teaspoon bleach for each gallon of water) and pour down the toilet or sink – never down a storm drain.
- Find new homes for unwanted pets, such as schools, retailers or other hobbyists.
- Contact a veterinarian or pet retailer for guidance on humane disposal of animals.

For more information on aquatic invaders in the marketplace (AIM) or to learn about species regulations for your state, visit:

www.takeAIM.org/mollusk



WHAT'S — IN YOUR —

AQUARIUM?

PROTECT OUR NATURAL AREAS
PURCHASE ONLY NON-INVADERS



Cover Photo (*Pomacea bridgesii*) by MdE at Wikimedia Commons, *Lymnaea peregra* photo by Biopix.dk, *Corbicula fluminea* photo by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, *Bellamya chinensis* photo by FISHBIO

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SNAILS, CLAMS AND MUSSELS



Many snails, clams and mussels used in classroom and home aquariums are invasive.

If accidentally or intentionally released into our waterways, they can degrade our natural areas by decreasing native biodiversity and changing ecosystem function.

These invaders can have direct negative impacts on people, too, by harming the health of humans and livestock, reducing crop yields, and impeding production of electricity and distribution of drinking water.

Once introduced they can be difficult and expensive to control, and are almost always impossible to eradicate.

Unfortunately, many snails, clams and mussels are sold by common names such as pond snail, ramshorn snail and mystery snail. These common names can refer to both invasive and non-invasive species. Therefore, knowing the scientific names of the organisms available for purchase will allow you to avoid buying known invaders.

**COMMON NAMES CAN BE MISLEADING.
USING SCIENTIFIC NAMES CAN HELP YOU
MAKE BETTER PURCHASES.**



PURCHASE THESE NON-INVADERS*

Biomphalaria havanensis - ghost ramshorn

Clea helena - assassin snail

Clithon corona - horned nerite snail, horned bumblebee snail, crown nerite snail

Drepanotrema cimex - rigid ramshorn

Marisa cornuarietis - giant ramshorn snail

Melanoides tuberculata - red-rimmed melania

Nerita natalensis (group) - "tracked" zebra nerite snail, tiger nerite snail, batik nerite snail

Neritina reclivata - olive nerite snail

Planorbella duryi - Seminole ramshorn, American ramshorn snail

Tarebia granifera or *Thiara granifera* - quilted melania

Tylomelania cf. gemmifera - gold rabbit snail

Tylomelania gemmifera X zeamais - black rabbit snail

Tylomelania gemmifera - yellow antenna rabbit snail

Tylomelania kruimeli - rabbit snail

Tylomelania patrichalis - yellow antenna rabbit snail

Tylomelania sp. - yellow rabbit snail

Tylomelania towutica - yellow spotted rabbit snail

Tylomelania zeamais - rabbit snail

AVOID THESE KNOWN OR POTENTIAL INVADERS*

Anodonta cygnea - swan mussel

Bellamyia chinensis or *Viviparus malleatus* - Chinese mystery snail, Japanese trapdoor snail

Bellamyia japonica - Japanese mystery snail

Corbicula fluminea - Asian clam, freshwater clam

Helisoma anceps - two-ridge ramshorn

Lasmigona subviridis - green floater

Lymnaea peregra - pond snail

Physa fontinalis - common bladder snail

Physella acuta - European physa

Planorbis contortus or *Bathymomphalus contortus* - ramshorn snail

Pomacea bridgesii - spiketop applesnail, mystery snail

*Based on research conducted at Loyola University Chicago, University of Notre Dame and The Nature Conservancy.