

### **Purple loosestrife – An invasive weed threatening Andover Lake!**

Purple loosestrife has been sighted at several locations around Andover Lake, most of it on private land

At one time purple loosestrife was sold in nurseries because of its attractive lavender flower. But it is an aggressive invasive weed. According to our limnologist, an effective control measure for small quantities is to pull it out by the roots. We encourage property owners to do just that. Although only seen on land thus far, it will grow in shallow water, and is known to overwhelm native species in wetlands. ALMA has spent more than two thousand dollars over the past three years to eradicate Phragmites in the cove, another invasive species, and will likely need to spend more this year. With the help of members we can eliminate the threat before it becomes an expensive problem. If any member sights this weed on ALMA or ALPOA property, please notify an ALMA member or use the ALMA link on the website to contact ALMA.

