

WEED ALERT!!

Stop this Invasive Plant!



About the invasive Water-Lettuce!

- An invasive water plant that is native to South Africa. It is now a bad weed in Australia.
- Water-lettuce was recently brought into Samoa and has been reported from gardens in Vaivase-uta, Vaigaga, Vailoa, Tamaligi and Vaisigano villages.
- The invasive water-lettuce grows fast forming dense mats, blocking the sunlight leading to the death of native plants and animals.
- Water-lettuce can take over any aquatic environment causing foul smell, low oxygen in the water and may contribute to the risk of flooding.
- The entangled root system restricts the movement of water contributing to stagnating water providing ideal breeding places for mosquitoes.
- Avoid this water plant to reach into rivers and to other islands of Samoa.

Water-lettuce *Pistia stratiotes*

What you can do to help!

- If you see this plant **REMOVE IT** from its aquatic environment and **DISPOSE** of it in a dry compost.
- **REPORT** any plant to the Environment Division by telephone: **67200**.



For more information please contact:
Division of Environment and Conservation Phone : 67200; Email: info@mnre.gov.ws

