

*Butomus umbellatus*  
**Flowering Rush**

Butomaceae, the flowering rush family  
Category: CONTAINMENT



**Diagnostic Characteristics**

- Aquatic perennial; emerged or submerged; can grow 5 feet tall and survive in 20 feet of water
- Leaves are fleshy, lanceolate, and triangular at cross-section; can be erect or floating
- Flowers sit on top of long cylindrical stalks in umbels, are pink to white, 3-petaled, 3-sepaled, and 0.75-1 inch wide
- Seeds are brown with ridges along the axis; can float
- Roots are thick, fleshy and rhizomatous

**Background**

- Native to Eurasia; likely introduced as an ornamental
- Inhabits wetlands, canals, lakes, streams; can grow in slow and fast moving water; can tolerate a wide temperature range
- Reproduces by seed and rhizomes
- Displaces native vegetation and disrupts recreational activities

Photo Credit:

Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

# Flowering Rush

*Butomus umbellatus*

