

HOD - Environment & Transportation

Dear Delegate,

My spouse and I ask you to SUPPORT HB0885.

No person associated with the CCP should have access to Maryland's land. There are numerous instances of invasive species, including the carp which was intentionally released into Maryland according to this official Maryland DNR <https://dnr.maryland.gov/Invasives/Documents/grasscarp09.pdf> -- images below), which have come from this country and numerous instances of poisoning of dogs and other animals through products manufactured there.

Maryland's farmland is one of the MOST important things that legislators should protect as mishandling this VITAL resource can adversely affect the Chesapeake Bay, the other water around the area and the soil.

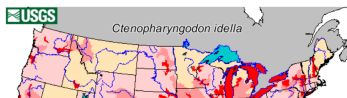
There are numerous political reasons as well as to prevent anyone who is associated with a known enemy of the U.S. to not have ANYTHING to do with the ownership or care of Maryland agriculture.



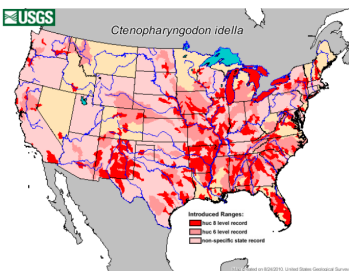
Grass Carp *Ctenopharyngodon idella*

Identification Large, torpedo-shaped fish; large, clearly-defined scales.

Why is it a Problem? Consumes native aquatic vegetation; competes with native species for food; degrades water quality by increasing phosphorous levels; interferes with native fish reproduction.



Range/Habitat Last seen in small ponds in the Potomac, Patuxent, Choptank, and Nanticoke basins.



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Similar Species Very similar in appearance to the black carp (also invasive).

Method of Introduction Hitchhiked into Maryland via aquaculture and intentional release.

Legal Status Prohibited from import, transport, sale, purchase and possession in Maryland.

Control and Prevention Do not release live grass carp into Maryland waters.

Want to know more? Check out www.dnr.maryland.gov for more on invasive species in Maryland and what you can do about it.

Sincerely,
FreeVox
Gaithersburg (LD-39)
Montgomery County

"Oh, say, does that **star-spangled banner** yet wave?
O'er the land of the **free** and the **home** of the **brave!**"