

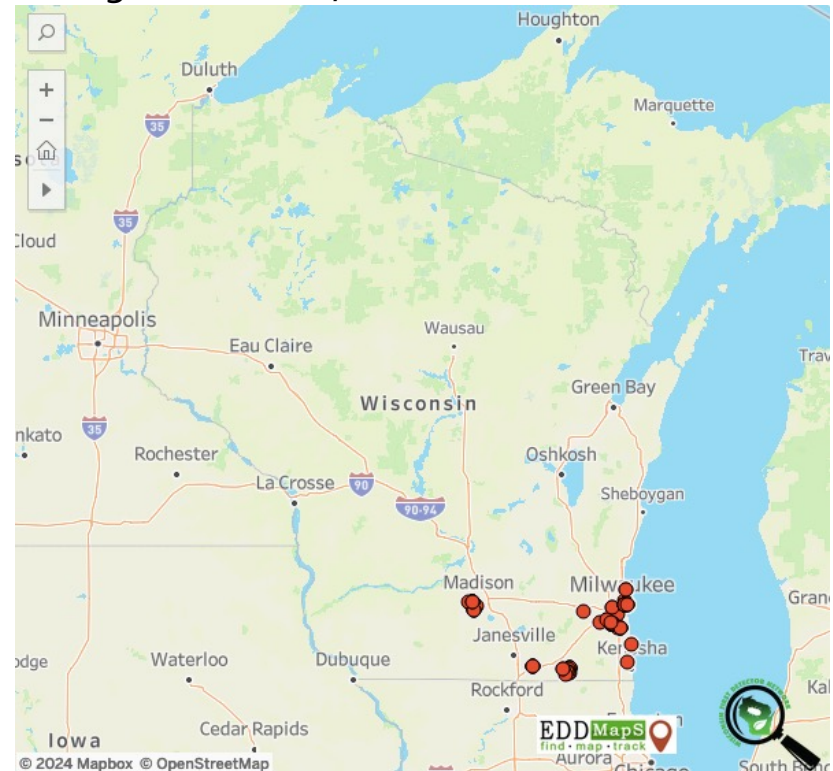
Lesser celandine (*Ficaria verna*)



- Creeping plant with shiny leaves, yellow flowers, and small bulbils in the leaf axils
- Habitats it invades:
 - Waterways
 - Forests
- Status
 - Wisconsin: Prohibited
 - Regulated in: IL, OH



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Lesser celandine (*Ficaria verna*)

Leaves alternate, simple

- Leaves up to 1.5" long, usually held in a rosette
- Leaves heart-shaped, with entire or scalloped margins
- Roots tuberous
- Small bulbils produced along creeping stems



Lesser celandine (*Ficaria verna*)



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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Leaves alternate, simple





Lesser celandine (*Ficaria verna*)

Flower/fruit

- Showy, bright yellow flowers with 8-15 petals
- Flowers borne on long stalks from the leaves; April-May
- Fruit is a hard, small achene; held in tight heads



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Lesser celandine look alike

Lesser celandine (*Ficaria verna*) is an early spring ephemeral, blooming soon after the snow melts. Due to its early bloom time and preference for moist habitats, it is most often confused with the **native** marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*).



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From top: sepals, bulbils, tubers

LESSER CELANDINE grows as a groundcover.

One flower per stalk with 10-15 (often 8) petals and 3 green sepals below.

Leaves are kidney to heart-shaped; **dark green, and shiny.**

Whitish bulbils produced on stem axils; **tubers** produced belowground.



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MARSH MARIGOLD tends to grow in clumps and is overall larger than lesser celandine.

2-5 flowers per stalk with 5-9 (often 5) petal-like sepals.

Leaves are round to kidney-shaped.

No bulbils or tubers.