

Plants Out of Place



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Issue 51, February 2017

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President's Notes: 2017 Has Arrived!

Ready or not 2017 is here. I know I wasn't ready! To kick off the year IPAW is reflecting on 2016 with their annual report and annual meeting. Watch for the 2016 annual report to be posted to the IPAW website mid-March. Also, I would like to invite you to attend IPAW's Annual Meeting on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at UW Green Bay being held in conjunction with the Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMAs) spring meeting. The CISMA meeting is being held in conjunction with the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Partnership meeting on Tuesday, March 14th.

IPAW's Annual Meeting will take place just before lunch and then lunch is sponsored by IPAW. Join us at 11:30AM for a brief presentation on the IPAW's 2016 year in review. Meet IPAW board members and Michele Jasik, IPAW program assistant, in person. Then stay for lunch and networking with other invasive species enthusiast from 12:00PM to 1:00PM.

No cost, we only ask you RSVP to keep a head count for food purposes. Or join us for the day at the CISMA meeting and learn more about your local CISMA or what it takes to create one in your area. You are also more than welcome to join us for both days at the CISMA and AIS meetings!

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"There is an important role for native weeds. These early-successional species were present in naturally disturbed areas before European settlement and subsequent widespread landscape disturbance."

James Reinartz, UW-Milwaukee Field Station, Saukville, WI

President's Notes Continued

The registration link for the Spring AIS Partnership/CISMA meeting is now live! Please RSVP here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-2017-ais-partnershipcisma-meeting-tickets-31259018566>

Please register by March 7th, so I have an accurate count for catering.
 Again, IPAW Annual Meeting is Wednesday, March 15th
 UW-Green Bay's University Union
 March 14th will be focused on AIS matters and March 15th on CISMA matters

IPAW on the Road, Educating About Invasive Species

IPAW at Wild Ones Conference – by: John Lunz, IPAW Board Member

On January 28th IPAW had a booth at the Fox Valley Wild Ones Chapter's annual conference "Towards Harmony With Nature". The conference was well attended and most of the attendees were quite up on invasive plants! That said, it is disappointing many had never heard of IPAW so it's clear we've got to do more to promote our group. Some expressed surprise and were glad to know there is a statewide organization concerned with invasive plants.

Several from the central part of the state, (around Waupaca mostly) noted there are lake associations sharing their concerns, but they've been unable to get individuals and associations to unite. A look at our map of CISMAs shows a glaring hole rising from the south-central Illinois border and expanding like a mushroom shaped cloud encompassing many of the central counties of the state! Bad analogy perhaps, but if you live in any of those areas you might consider forming a regional CISMA as your first line of defense. Interested? IPAW can help.

IPAW at Wisconsin Public Television's Garden Expo – by: Michele Jasik, IPAW Program Assistant

Once again, IPAW had an exhibit at Wisconsin's Public Television's Garden Expo February 10th – 12th. Although we generally do not increase our membership at these events, the Garden Expo gives IPAW the chance to directly speak to more than 18,000 people about invasive species.

Both Kelly Kearns from Wisconsin DNR and Frank Hassler from Good Oak, LLC gave wonderful presentations about invasive species. Bernie Williams also created a beautiful new display explaining the difference between "prohibited" and "restricted" invasive species. Also, on the display was a large map of CISMAs throughout the state of Wisconsin.

We, at IPAW would like to thank all of the volunteers who helped staff the booth at this event. We could not spread the word about invasive species without you!

IPAW will be at the 2017 Wetland Science Conference – February 28-March 2, 2017

IPAW will also be exhibiting at the 2017 Wetland Science Conference this month in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Stop by our table and say hello or come and ask about an invasive species that you are interested in learning about.



Invasive Plants to Watch Out for in 2017

By: Kelly Kearns, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources



Lesser Celandine



Poison Hemlock



Burnet Saxifrage

With another fairly mild winter and what looks like a possible early spring, it's just about time to start searching for new or expanding populations of invasive plants. WDNR needs your help in spotting and reporting 3 groups of plants. 1) There are several Prohibited species that are spreading rapidly and highly invasive in the few areas where they have been found. These plants should be priorities for reporting and control. 2) In addition, there are several Prohibited species not yet reported in Wisconsin that we will want to get controlled as soon as they show up. 3) Lastly, we have a group of species that are not yet regulated, but will likely be assessed for regulation in the near future. Any information we can gather on their distribution, abundance and impacts would be extremely helpful.

Note that for all of these plants, please get photos and/or voucher specimens and collect data on exact location, population size, habitat invaded, and if known, the landowner. Report all invasive plant occurrences to invasive.species@wi.gov

1) Prohibited Species known to be spreading in a few areas, and may be more abundant

Lesser Celandine/Fig Buttercup (*Ranunculus ficaria*/*Ficaria verna*) – This small spring ephemeral will be blooming by April, and dies back by June. It has shiny bright green leaves, shiny yellow flowers and spreads primarily along waterways but can spread in upland forests as well. At this time populations are known in Milwaukee, Walworth, Racine and Dane Counties. A few of these populations cover acres. It spreads by tubers, seed and vegetative bulbils that persist on the soil surface after the leaves die back.

Wild Chervil (*Anthriscus sylvestris*) – Chervil is our earliest flowering invasive with white flowers in an umbel. This plant spreads rapidly on roadsides as it goes to fruit before mowing is typically done. It quickly moves from roadsides into grasslands and forest edges. The Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership is working extensively with county and town highway departments in Chippewa and adjacent counties to survey for and contain this plant. Partners are also trying to control it in Columbia, Sheboygan, Milwaukee, Oneida, Green and Rock Counties.

Poison Hemlock (*Conium maculatum*) – As one of the most toxic plants in the world to consume, it is important to keep this plant out of pastures and hayfields. Although this plant also has white flowers in umbels, it is stouter and typically taller than wild chervil, and has spotted stems. It has been on Iowa County roadsides for a number of years, and is spreading along roadsides primarily in the SW counties.

Japanese hedgeparsley (*Torilis japonica*) – Another of the weedy white umbels, with delicate looking flowers, stems and leaves. This biennial can form dense stands in sun or shade and is easily spread by roadside mowing. Already widespread in many areas in the SW counties, it is moving north and east and should be controlled immediately before going to seed.

Burnet Saxifrage (*Pimpinella saxifraga*) – And yet another weedy white umbel! This Queen Anne's lace look-alike is easily overlooked as it flowers the same time and in the

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Invasives to Watch Out for Continued



Amur Cork Tree



Japanese Stilt Grass



Callery Pear



same habitats as the more abundant weed. The leaves are distinctive, being much less fern-like than the other umbel species listed. In some areas this plant seems to be very aggressive and difficult to control.

[Amur Cork Tree \(*Phellodendron amurense*\)](#) – Winter is the best time to spot these trees with light colored bark that gets thick and corky with age. Cut into the bark to see the bright yellow cambium that distinguishes this tree. The female plants produce large numbers of fleshy fruits that are spread by birds. Known from Adams, Dunn and Columbia Counties, Amur cork tree is dominating the woodlands there and spreading to adjacent forests.

2) Prohibited Species not yet reported in Wisconsin, but may be here

[Japanese Stilt Grass \(*Microstegium vimineum*\)](#) – This highly invasive annual grass reproduces quickly and spreads via waterways, then moves into upland forests. It looks like a small bamboo, but the 2-3” leaves have an off-center stripe of white hairs on the upper side of the leaf. Collect a specimen if you think you found it, as there are some native *Leersia* species that look similar.

[Japanese Honeysuckle Vine \(*Lonicera japonica*\)](#) – This vining honeysuckle can blanket the forest floor, shrubs and climb into trees. Although this woody vine is common in Illinois, we don’t have any verified stands in Wisconsin at this time. Leaves can be entire and oval, or lobed and persist into late fall. Flowers and fruits are similar to the invasive shrub honeysuckles.

[Grecian Foxglove \(*Digitalis lanata*\)](#) – This biennial foxglove is thriving and spreading along roadsides and grasslands in Minnesota, across the river from St. Croix County. The flowers have a white lower lip, brownish purple upper lip and yellow interior. It spreads by seed rapidly and research is being done to control it.

3) Species not yet regulated, needing information on distribution, abundance and impacts

[Callery Pear \(*Pyrus calleryana*\)](#) – This widely planted tree has multiple cultivars, which are supposedly sterile. But when cultivars are planted near each other, they produce fruits. States to our south have seen it naturalizing for many years, but we are just now finding wild plants in WI. Notice when the planted trees are flowering, and look for it flowering in wild areas. It is also easily spotted by profuse white flowers, pyramidal growth form, distinctive shiny leaves and fall color.

[Yellow bedstraw \(*Galium verum*\)](#) – Several large populations of this yellow bedstraw have recently been found blanketing grasslands and prairie restorations. It spreads by seed and rhizomes. Look for the clambering stems with whorled leaves and clusters of small yellow flowers throughout the summer.

[Norway Maple \(*Acer platanoides*\)](#) – Although this tree is widely planted as a street tree and in yards, we need to determine if it is naturalizing into forests and altering forest composition. Please report areas where it is spreading, especially outside of urban areas. Leaf shape, the shape of the samaras (seed pods) and the milky sap in the leaves distinguish it from sugar maple.

To learn more about these new invasives and for more photos, please click on their corresponding links.

Treating Invasives in Winter

By: Willis Brown, IPAW Board Member

While most people think that warm sunny days are the best for treating invasives, a lot of work can be done controlling them in the winter, primarily woody species. Most of what is in this essay comes from my personal experience and I would welcome any feedback about what others have observed. Before I get into woody species, I have heard that some herbaceous species that are green year round can be treated as well. Although we never tried it, some claim success on treating garlic mustard in the middle of winter as long as the chemical solution doesn't freeze or turn cloudy. If this is so, hedge parsley might also be susceptible to chemical treatment. Some of the species listed below are considered native, but just assume that any woody species is an invasive to a prairie. There are some species that can be controlled without any chemical. Slippery elm can be girdled using a saw when cut through to the xylem. While we never tried it, red elm might also be treated this way. Gymnosperms (e.g. juniper and pines) can also be girdled or cut down and it is not necessary to treat the girdle or stump as long as the cut is below the lowest branch point. Aspen is another species that can be killed by girdling, but it is much easier when the sap is flowing in the spring and I wouldn't recommend doing so in the winter months. We tried a technique for controlling ironwood, which involves cutting the tree at about 3 feet in height at a 45-degree angle. We only tried this at one site (it was part of the contract) and have not returned to see how effective it is. Recently, someone has promoted "Buckthorn Baggies" which can be placed over a cut buckthorn stump. This is something we also have never tried but I would assume it works as long as someone is willing to put in the labor and monitor the bags and/or has a minor infestation. I would also imagine that this bag concept should work on the stumps of other species.



With regard to chemical treatment, I will not give any specific recipes and urge the reader to read the label for instructions. For most other species, a basal bark treatment using oil based triclopyr on stumps or trunks works well. It is preferable to use in the winter as it stays liquid at low temperatures and since it is quite volatile its use is relatively safe in the cold. In milder weather cut stumps can be treated with glyphosate or the water based triclopyr. Some species, such as walnut, box elder, grey dogwood and some honeysuckle species produce a large flow of sap from the cut stump and require basal bark treatment with triclopyr. Species with "milky" sap such as sumac and mulberry appear to bind the chemical solution applied to cut stumps and



prohibit it from being translocated in to the root system also require basal bark treatment. Sumac is clonal and may require annual treatment for 2-3 years. When doing so, make sure that there is no snow around the base of the trunk to ensure that the entire trunk and exposed roots are treated. For some reason we have had little to poor success using glyphosate on cut cherry, black oak and hickory any time of year. Buckthorn does not respond well to glyphosate in the spring, presumably because of sap flow. Water based triclopyr is preferred for these species. Another invasive species, black locust, is clonal and glyphosate seems ineffective. Basal bark treatment with triclopyr kills individual trees but does not seem to kill the clone and so you need to return the following years to treat the new saplings. We have had better success with aminopyralid. Winter treatment of woody species has a decided advantage in that, with adequate snow cover, the wood can be burned as it is cut to reduce debris and keep warm.

WIFDN's Upcoming Webinar Series

By: Anne Pearce, Wisconsin First Detector Network Coordinator

Join the Wisconsin First Detector Network (WIFDN) for our 4th annual webinar series! Past webinars have trained over 150 people in invasive species I.D., detection, and reporting, in addition to exploring other topics. The FREE webinars take place on Fridays from noon – 1:30 pm Central time and are open to all interested participants. Take a look at the schedule below and visit our website to learn more and to register:

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/wifdn/2017-webinar-series/>. We hope you can join us!

March 17th: What to Look for in 2017

Guest speakers Paul Skawinski, Tim Campbell, Brian Hudelson, and PJ Liesch from UW Extension will share what new and priority species we should look for in 2017.

April 7th: Passengers vs. Drivers

We'll explore the ideas of invasive species acting as drivers of or passengers in ecosystem change with Don Waller (UW-Madison) and Mike Siefkes (Great Lakes Fishery Commission).



April 21st: Take Action!

In addition to learning how to use the GLEDN app to report invasive species, we'll learn about statewide *Phragmites* efforts from Jason Granberg (DNR) and purple loosestrife efforts in Washington County from Bradley Steckart (Washington Co. Land & Water Conservation Div.).

May 5th: Citizen Science and Volunteer Opportunities

Learn about impacts of citizen scientists from Alycia Crall (National Ecological Observatory Network), as well as volunteer opportunities from Art Wagner (USDA-APHIS-PPQ), Amanda Perdsock (River Alliance of Wisconsin), and Niels Jorgensen (UW-Madison).



Wild Chervil Spreads in West Central Wisconsin:

Invasive Plant Masquerades as Queen Anne's Lace, Takes Over Farm Fields

By: Kathy Stahl, Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership

In the plant world, one of the big challenges is to know if a new plant neighbor is a friend or foe.

Many alien plants (better known as non-natives) are relatively harmless and even objects of admiration — think tulips and daffodils. Several alien plants including Buckthorn and Japanese Knotweed turned out to be more than what native plants and people can easily manage. A few alien plants also can be a real threat to our economic well-being and farmers' crops.

The Chippewa Valley has a new non-native that we all need to recognize and control immediately before it expands into other parts of our area. This “alien” invasive plant is called Wild Chervil.

Wild chervil blooms in late May and is found in Barron, Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, Polk and St. Croix Counties. This is a plant that can be a challenge to manage once established and an economic liability for farmers.

An attractive flower, Wild Chervil looks somewhat like Queen Anne's Lace although it blooms a month earlier than the later summer blooming Queen Anne's Lace. Wild chervil forms white umbel flowers (flower clusters shaped like an upside-down umbrella that come from a central point) on a hollow grooved stem. It develops a hairy collar around the nodes. The leaves are divided, triangular and fern-like.

Wild chervil forms a taproot that can grow six feet deep, which partially explains why it is difficult to get rid of once it gets a good start. It reproduces primarily by seed and generally is three- to four-feet tall. Wild Chervil starts as a rosette with fern-like leaves that last for at least one year. The rosette then grows and flowers typically in the second year after which the plant dies with its many seeds carrying on its legacy.

The plant prefers rich, moist soils but grows comfortably in roadsides, prairies, hay fields, pastures and woodlands. Once Wild Chervil gets established it out-competes native plants for water, nutrition and light. It forms monocultures along the roadsides making it difficult for native plants to survive. It invades hay fields and pastures ultimately crowding out grasses. Farmers need to be watchful that the plant does not get a start and mature to seed in their hay fields.

When very young and the soil moisture is conducive, individual chervil plants can be pulled. The deep taproot makes this difficult, but pulling small amounts of Wild Chervil annually for a few consecutive years can control its spread. Mowing is not as effective even if done for a few years in a row before the plant sets seed. Once it has seeded, mowing will spread the seeds farther.

For large infestations of wild chervil, herbicide gets the best results. Research indicates that Escort XP is the most effective herbicide although care must be taken to not overspray as it will damage desirable plants. It is important not to spray into surface waters. Glyphosate has been used with somewhat less effectiveness one year after spraying.

If Wild Chervil has already significantly invaded your land or roadside, prioritize controlling isolated plants to prevent their

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Wild Chervil Spreads Continued

spread. Control the edges of the invasion in order to prevent it spreading to your neighbors' land or into your wooded lot or hay field.

If you pull the plants that are flowering be sure to bag them and take them to a landfill for burial to prevent spreading seeds. With everyone's help the spread of wild chervil to other areas of Chippewa Valley can be slowed.

Protect the Places You Play: Keep Invasive Species Out!



The Wisconsin Invasive Species Council will celebrate Invasive Species Awareness Month (ISAM) during June 2017 with various events to raise awareness of invasive species. Events include the 13th annual invader crusader awards and the 3rd annual video contest.

Award and contest winners will be recognized at an awards ceremony on June 8th, 2017 at the MacKenzie Environmental Center in Poynette, WI from 1 to 3PM. Watch the [Council's website](#) for postings of event information, updates and new events.

13th annual Invader Crusader Awards

To kick off ISAM the Wisconsin Invasive Species Council announces the 13th annual Invader Crusader Awards, honoring Wisconsin citizens and organizations for their significant contribution to prevent, control or eradicate invasive species that harm Wisconsin's lands, waters, and wetlands.

The Council is requesting nominations starting now for individuals, groups, or organizations for their exemplary efforts at addressing issues pertaining to terrestrial and aquatic invasive species, including plants, animals and diseases. The Invader Crusader Award will be presented in both volunteer and professional categories. Note that both individuals and groups may be nominated in each category. Please consider nominating both adults and youth.

The deadline for submitting nominations is Friday, March 17th, 2017. Find the application material and last year's recipients at www.invasivespecies.wi.gov/awareness, the Invasive Species Awareness Month website.

3rd annual Video Contest

Consider crafting a short (less than two minute) video illustrating why you care about invasive species and how easy invasive species prevention can be. The goal is to increase awareness of invasive species and to teach people how to prevent and control their spread.

Videos can be submitted and voted on through the Wisconsin DNR Facebook page via the contest link (<http://invasivespecies.wi.gov/awareness-month/video-contest/>). Contest rules and guidelines can also be found there. Videos can be submitted from February 6, 2017 through April 28, 2017.

Tell your friends, family and colleagues to go to the Wisconsin DNR Facebook page and vote on their favorite video starting May 1, 2017. The video with the most votes at the end of the voting period, May 31st, 2017, at midnight will win the contest.

Don't forget to Like
IPAW on Facebook!



Save the Date!

The Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference (UMISC) will be held at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN
October 15-17, 2018

IPAW Board Members:

Christa Schaefer, IPAW President,
Wisconsin Department of
Transportation

Mark Feider, IPAW Vice
President, Milwaukee Audubon
Society

Willis Brown, IPAW Treasurer,
Michler and Brown, LLC

John Lunz, IPAW Secretary, The
Park People – Weed-Out Program,
The Wild Ones, Preserve Our Parks

Mic Armstrong, Armstrong
Landscaping

Thomas Boos II, Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks

Greg Bunker, Stockbridge-Munsee
Community

Jeremy Chiamulera, Compass
Land Consultants, Inc.

Angelique Dahlberg, St. Croix
River Association

Jerry Doll, University of Wisconsin
- Extension

Jamie Nuthals, Integrity's Energy
Group

Diane Schauer, Calumet County

Tony Summers, Wisconsin First
Detector Network

Patricia Trochlell, Wisconsin
Department of Natural Resources

Newsletter Information:

Plants Out of Place is a periodic newsletter distributed to Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin members.

Send comments, suggestions, and articles that you think may be of interest to IPAW at info@ipaw.org

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IPAW's Mission:

"To promote better stewardship of the natural resources of Wisconsin by advancing the understanding of invasive plants and encouraging the control of their spread."