

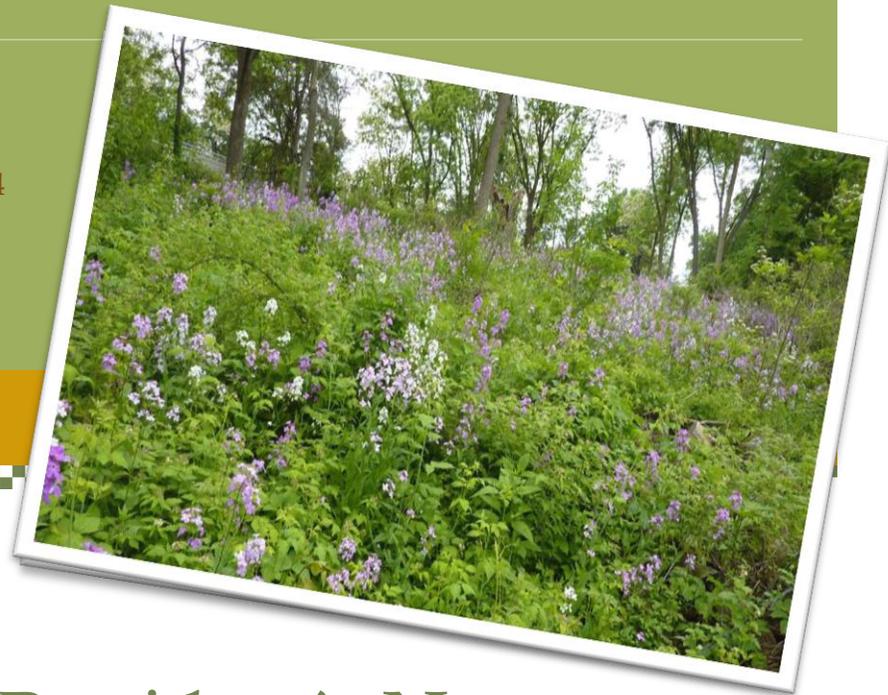
Plants Out of Place



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Issue 37, June 2013

Table of Contents

<u>President's Notes</u>	1-2
<u>Six New Species</u>	3
<u>A New and Unfortunate Find</u>	4-5
<u>Introduction of Our Newest Board Member</u>	6
<u>Meet IPAW's New Program Assistant</u>	7
<u>SEWISC is Partnering to Restore Native Savanna Habitat</u>	7-8

President's Notes: Transitions

Hello to all. Welcome to IPAW's first electronic newsletter, "Plants out of Place." I would like to first start out with a huge thanks to Jim Reinartz and Susan Slapnick for compiling, editing and formatting the newsletters for the last decade. Without their herculean effort, it could not have been done. I know it has been over a year since IPAW has sent our members a newsletter and we sincerely apologize for this.

Moving on! The IPAW board recently decided to change the format of the newsletter to an electronic one. The reasons are two-fold: Jim has "expended" his newsletter editing capabilities and we feel we can reach a wider distribution of people electronically these days. I hope you enjoy the new format and please provide us any feedback and thoughts on the change.

Obviously with an e-newsletter, in order for our members to receive it, we need your email address. Michele Jasik, our new stellar program assistant, (see [Meet...](#) on page 7) has

Continued on Page 2

"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

Presidents Notes Continued

worked very hard to get our membership database updated, however, we are still lacking emails from many members. I encourage you all to make sure you provide us with your email address when you join or renew your membership. If you happen to receive this indirectly and want to share your email address, please do so by sending it to info@ipaw.org. This will ensure you receive the latest version of Plants Out of Place, "Poop."

IPAW has recently experienced a couple board members moving on to different and hopefully brighter pastures. I would like to acknowledge them with thanks from all of us for their many years of service and dedication.

Along with the transition to an electronic newsletter, we also have some transitions with our board:

Board Transitions

First, a huge thank you to **Rolf Uttegaard** who has been a board member since IPAW began in 2001. Rolf has been incredibly active traveling across the state, attending many conferences, trying to spread the mission of IPAW. In the old days, he used to lug around a display board that I swear weighed 80 pounds! He never complained and was always enthusiastic about providing outreach for us. For those of you know Rolf, you know as well as I do, we will be seeing Rolf again.

The adventures of **Clarissa Hammond** continue. If you recall Clarissa was our program assistant

for several years and moved on to Alaska. She came back a couple years later and we promptly asked her to join our board. Clarissa stepped in and took on the role of IPAW Secretary with no hesitation, while representing DATCP on our board. She has again moved on to Alaska after serving as our secretary for the last couple years. We wish you the best of luck, Clarissa.

Although a short timer to Wisconsin, **Mindy Wilkinson** has made a lasting impression. Mindy joined the board with a breadth of experience primarily from leading the Invasive Species program in Hawaii. Her role as the NR40 coordinator for the Wisconsin DNR has been invaluable in facilitating the WDNR function as a well-oiled team. Her national invasive species policy knowledge has provided IPAW with direction for the future. Best of luck to you, Mindy.

With vacancies, additions generally follow. Thus, I would like to warmly welcome **Jamie Nuthals** who joined our board of directors recently. (See [Introduction...](#) on page 6 to learn more about him).

Other Transitions

Another transition is our faithful webmaster **Marsha Vomastic, of Iuvo, LLC** has decided to discontinue her services with IPAW as she feels her role of helping us develop the website has been long completed. Marsha has been an amazing asset to IPAW with her innovation and prompt service. The website is incredibly popular due to

her hard work and insight. We should all give thanks to Marsha.

Transitions are always welcome, even though it is hard to see our friends go. However, this gives IPAW an opportunity to search for new and enthusiastic Board of Directors. The Board drives the machine we call IPAW by providing outreach across Wisconsin and basic advocating for invasive plants education and funding, just to name two. At our recent board meeting in May, we have elected several new board members. I will share more information on this in the next issue of Poop. I am thrilled with the new board members and the future that IPAW has with new thinkers and new motivation.

New Logo

Lastly, I would also like to announce that we have a new logo, which we proudly display on the front page. We began the process of choosing one to celebrate our 10th anniversary in 2011 and it has taken us this long to get it right. We feel that our logo is our trademark and wanted to make sure we chose the right one. Thanks to Krista Hamilton, a friend of IPAW, who donated her skills and time to create dozens of options for us.

Hope you all are enjoying the growing season and keep on pulling! (or cutting, or treating...)

Earnestly,



Thomas M. Boos II
IPAW President

Six New Species to the Flora of Wisconsin And Where to Find More

By: Emmet J. Judziewicz and John Zaborsky
From the Botanical Club of Wisconsin

With global warming really beginning to kick in, we can expect to see more heat-tolerant invasive plants to appear in Wisconsin. Such has been the case during the first ten years of the 21st century, and in particular during 2012. Here are some new records for our state, in chronological order.

Fairgrounds grass (*Sclerochloa dura*)

This Eurasian grass, tolerant or heat, salt, and trampling, was first collected in Wisconsin by University of Michigan Botanist Richard K. Rabeler in 2001, in Rock and Walworth Counties: It had been collected many times in the Chicago regions since 1992 and it was only a matter of time until it reached Wisconsin. As the common name indicates, it often appears first at county and state fairgrounds:

<http://wisplants.uwsp.edu/scripts/detail.asp?SpCode=SCLDUR>

Plains bluegrass (*Poa arida*)

This is a salt- and drought-tolerant western U.S. species that was first collected in Wisconsin in heavily salted ditches along I-94 in Kenosha and Racine Counties by Illinois botanist Gerould Wilhelm in 2008. Wilhelm had previously detected it frequently, starting in 1991, along interstate highways in the Chicago Region. It is an early-

flowering bluegrass (like *Poa annua*), but has a pale, ghostly color. Like Fairgrounds grass, it will probably move north in Wisconsin in the coming years.
<http://wisplants.uwsp.edu/scripts/detail.asp?SpCode=POAARI>

Small hawksbeard (*Crepis pulchra*)

This Eurasian member of the sunflower or composite family (*Asteraceae*) was first collected along the active, north-south running railroad along the east bank of the Mississippi River a few miles south of Cassville, Grant County, by Neil Harriman and Tom Eddy. Neil identified it at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh herbarium. Small hawksbeard is present in Illinois and Indiana but is rare in both states. The Cassville railroad site produced two other state records in 2012.

Windmill grass (*Chloris verticillata*)

Windmill grass, a native of the southern U.S. that has recently become weedy in northern Illinois, was first collected as a weed at Muscoda, Grant County, on the 15th of August 2012 by Emmet Judziewicz, along a paved footpath in park on the banks of the Wisconsin River. It looks like a pale green, prickly crab grass due to

its finger-like spikes of awned spikelets.

<http://wisplants.uwsp.edu/scripts/detail.asp?SpCode=CHLVER>

Small white morning glory (*Ipomaea lacunosa*)

Small white morning glory, a southern U.S. species, was first collected at the “Cassville railroad site” in Grant County on the 19th of August, 2012 by John Zaborsky and Emmet Judziewicz, and photographed (below) and identified by Zaborsky. It has heart-shaped leaves, and, as its common name suggests, small white flowers. This species is native in the northern ¾th of Illinois, the Wisconsin collection representing a northern range extension of about 100 miles.

<http://wisplants.uwsp.edu/scripts/detail.asp?SpCode=IPOLAC>

Five-hook bassia (*Bassia hyssopifolia*)

On the same morning, John and I also found this Eurasian member of the amaranth family (Amaranth family, including the old *Chenopodiaceae*) in the same locality as small hawksbeard and small white morning glory. It was locally common and almost formed a sterile 0.75 m “hedge” in the

Continued on Page 4

Six Species Continued

railroad ditch in places; the flower buds were just beginning to appear. The USDA's web site has this Eurasian weed as rare in South Dakota, Iowa, and Kentucky in the Midwest, commoner as a weed in the western U.S.

Where we might expect to find additional new Wisconsin plant records

Clearly, more heat- and drought-tolerant Eurasian and southern and western North American species may be expected to be found in Wisconsin, especially in disturbed areas such as heavily salted highway margins and railroad rights-of-way in the far south near the Illinois border. A week spent carefully botanizing such habitats would be productive, especially later in the summer when these species tend to

bloom. The Cassville railroad site had characteristics that proved conducive to these new invaders: heavy train traffic, on a south to north route, apparently non-herbicided margins in most places, and a ditch and small embankment on the outside of a curve, where gravity would be expected to dislodge hitchhiking seeds. Result: Three state records, and we did not survey it completely.

A New and Unfortunate Find

By: Kelly Kearns, Wisconsin DNR



The first known occurrence of policeman's helmet (*Impatiens glandulifera*) in Wisconsin has been reported in northeastern Shawano County. Seeds species have been reportedly brought into Wisconsin by a previous landowner who collected them during a trip to the United Kingdom. The seeds were planted as an ornamental plant in a

manicured lawn and quickly escaped cultivation. The main infestation is over one-third acre and is expanding even with control. A voucher specimen has been submitted to the UW – Green Bay Herbarium for verification.

Policeman's helmet is an *Impatiens* species native to the Himalayan range. It is an annual species reproducing by seedpods. Growing up to 8 feet tall, the

upright stems are hollow and have a red-purple hue. The leaves are whorled in sets of three. Leaves are lanceolate and heavily serrated. The plant receives its name from the bright purple, five-part irregularly shaped flowers, which resemble traditional British police helmets. The flowers bloom between June and August.

As an annual, the policeman's helmet reproduces by seed. Each plant can produce up to 800 seeds. Seed viability is up to two years. The seeds are broadcast when the seedpods are disturbed. Seed dispersal begins in early fall. Germination has been reported in standing water.

Policeman's helmet is a wetland plant. It thrives in moist areas and riparian zones. During a walk-through of the property, WDNR foresters and Shawano County staff located small pockets of the plant located in depressions within the adjacent wet

Continued on Page 5

woodlot. The plant was most abundant where breaks in the canopy occurred.

Herbivory was evident on individual plants throughout the property. The largest concentrations of plants within the woodlot were located along game trails. WDNR and Shawano County staffs believe that deer are transporting seeds throughout the property. Seeds may either be adhering to the deer's coat or passing through the digestive track. The specific transport mechanism has not yet been determined.

Due to the prolific nature of this species in several other states and the United Kingdom, an intensive roadside survey was performed in early fall 2011 within three miles of the main infestation. The whitetail deer has an average home range of three square miles. In addition, several municipality and state owned properties and private parcels under Managed Forest Law were walked to search for additional occurrences. None were found.

In order to effectively control policeman's helmet, the local town board and Shawano County Land Conservation Division staff collaborated with local landowners to perform an intensive search.

Letters and identification pamphlets were mailed in June 2012 to all property owners within three miles of the infestation. Landowners were asked to look for and report and occurrences of this species to the Shawano County Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator. All roadsides and public parcels were field surveyed during summer 2012 for new

occurrences. A volunteer team comprised of the landowner, local citizens, the municipal weed officer, WDNR staff, Menominee tribal employees, and others hand pulled all plants prior to seed formation. The plants were composted on-site. Follow-up hand pulling and field investigations will occur in 2013 to assure all viable seeds and plants are removed.



Save the Date

September 26, 2013 is Southeastern Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium, Inc. & Johnson's Nursery, Inc. are hosting a forum for Green Industry Professionals & Land Managers called "Where Ecology Meets Economy"

See <http://sewisc.org/sewisc-events/307-where-ecology-meets-economy> for more details.

Introduction of Our Newest Board Member, Jamie Nuthals

Welcome to IPAW, Jamie!



Greetings,

My name is **Jamie Nuthals**; I have been employed at Integrys Energy the parent company of Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPS) for the past eight years. I work in the Corporate Environmental Services Department, out of our headquarters in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

I manage several natural resources programs for WPS and the five other Integrys Energy electric and gas utilities in Wisconsin Minnesota, Michigan & Illinois, including the invasive species program. This opportunity has provided me with the ability to work on many aquatic and terrestrial invasive plant species projects. One interesting project has been the Menominee Watershed Project, where the invasive aquatic Eurasian water milfoil plant was studied to determine genetic morphology and how the differences in genetic characteristics influences the effects on herbicide control and natural biological controls through water bodies in northeast Wisconsin and the

southeast portion of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

I have also been heavily involved with the control of purple loosestrife on many of our reservoirs; either by hand pulling small populations or biological control with the use of *Gallerucella* beetles on large infestations.

In addition, I continue to work with several county conservation districts, lake associations and the Wisconsin DNR to control other aquatic and terrestrial invasive species.

I continue to work on several utility projects to control and keep terrestrial invasive species from spreading in our rights of way. This includes an active invasive species identification, tracking and avoidance program implemented for WPS, based on guidance developed as a member of the State's Transportation and Utility Rights of Way BMP Advisory Committee.

In my free time, I enjoy almost any kind of fishing, but when given the opportunity fishing for musky is my

true passion. I also enjoy spending time outdoors and with my family in the Northeast Wisconsin wilderness. Hunting for wild turkey and whitetail deer always provides me great memories, although my success has been limited.

I also enjoy traveling with my wife, running (finished my first half marathon last year) and I am an avid Green Bay Packer fan.

In addition, I enjoy volunteering time to provide outdoor opportunities for persons with disabilities, working with Ice Age Trail Alliance mobile skills projects and remain active with lake associations on instructing items such as wildlife nesting structure installation and aquatic invasive species coordination.

Meet IPAW's New Program Assistant, Michele Jasik

Hi, my name is Michele Jasik and I am very excited about being a part of IPAW. Even though I work less than one day a week for IPAW, I feel that it is one of the most rewarding jobs that I have had.

I have to admit taking on this position has been somewhat overwhelming, because there had not been a program assistant for some time. At the same time, it is also very exciting because there is so much I can do. For one, our membership was very low and I have already increased it by over 75%, our website needs major revamping and we are in the process of doing this, and now I am working on my first newsletter.

I was employed as a paralegal in the Chicago land area for well over 15 years when I decided to return to school and pursue my dream of getting a degree in Natural Resources and Environmental



Science from Purdue University. After that, I was employed at Purdue in the biochemistry department. My husband then got transferred to Madison (and, yes, we really wanted more snow) so we moved to Wisconsin.

I then was employed at the University of Wisconsin Madison, as a research specialist for over six years.

Finally, I am doing something I love! I really and truly believe in

IPAW and I want to do my best for this organization.

In my spare time I volunteer at The Nature Conservancy, tackling any tasks they have for me and I also help out a great 93-year-old senior for the West Madison Senior Coalition. I love to garden, pull plants out of place, ride my bike, and practice lots of yoga.

Again, I am excited to take on these new challenges and look forward to assisting IPAW members in any way I can.

SEWISC is Partnering to Restore Native Savanna Habitat

Beginning last fall, Southeast Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium (SEWISC) worked with partners to reestablish rare oak-savanna plant communities, ultimately benefitting wildlife, which depend on that habitat. With funding from the James E. Dutton Foundation, Inc., the Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture and the Waukesha County Land Conservancy, we will tackle two high priority invasive plant

infestations located in the Franklin Savanna State Natural Area and in the Eagle Centre Prairie State Natural Area/Oak Savanna Restoration. These efforts will result in long-term benefits to local wildlife as well as increase local environmental stewardship activities.

Oak savanna, which once was found in the prairie-forest ecotone that included large parts of southern and western Wisconsin, is now perhaps the most threatened and rare vegetation

community in the state. Savannas once covered over 5 million acres in southern Wisconsin. As the oak savanna disappeared so did the species of wildlife that use this unique habitat type. Savannas are diverse ecosystems that provide critical habitat to "species of greatest conservation need" (SCGN) as defined by Wisconsin's Wildlife Action Plan. Avian species that can directly benefit from our

Continued on Page 8

Partnering to Restore Continued

restoration efforts include Brown Thrasher, Field Sparrow, Redheaded Woodpecker, Blue-winged Warbler, and Black-billed Cuckoo. Other savannah/savannah-edge species not on the list of SGCN that may benefit include American Kestrel, Northern Flicker, Orchard Oriole, Northern Shrike, Common Yellowthroat, and Clay-colored Sparrow.

Located in the city of Franklin, the Franklin Savanna State Natural Area (part of the Milwaukee County Park System) is a rare, 92 acre oak savanna and is Milwaukee County's last remaining savanna remnant. A heavy invasion of common buckthorn and smaller pockets of invading garlic mustard, reed canary grass, and oriental bittersweet threaten the health of this site. Non-native invasive species are out-competing the native grassland plants, causing reduced habitat for many native wildlife species. The ephemeral wetlands on site are choked with reed canary grass which limits breeding sites for amphibians, one of the building blocks of any healthy ecosystem.

The Eagle Centre Prairie State Natural Area and Oak Savanna property is nestled within both the Village and the Town of Eagle. A 2010 tornado damaged many 100 to 150 year-old oak trees, leaving open canopy and bare soil areas, which have been invaded, by buckthorn, honeysuckle, spotted knapweed and sweet clover. Partially located within the Kettle Moraine Primary Environmental Corridor, the community contains 85 native plant

species, of which 60 are native prairie/oak savanna species. Of particular interest is the significant presence of kittentail (*Besseyia bullii*), which is a state-threatened plant species.

Our invasive species control efforts will be monitored on an annual basis for four years and at five-year intervals thereafter. Measures will be taken as needed for at least 10-12 years to further control buckthorn, honeysuckle and other invasive species as they appear. Locally collected seeds of native grasses and wildflowers will be introduced to the project areas until a good ground cover is obtained and prescribed burns will be used to maintain the savanna habitat. Breeding bird surveys will be conducted annually for five years and at five-year intervals thereafter to document wildlife use. This long-term management plan will be implemented by volunteer and professional land stewards, demonstrating the efficacy of linking education, outreach and on-the-ground restoration

Don't forget to Like
IPAW on Facebook!



Redheaded
Woodpecker
(*Melanerpes
erythrocephalus*)



Invasive Shrub
Control in Franklin
Savannah



Eagle Centre
2010 Tornado
Damage

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:

Michele Jasik
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PO Box 5275
Madison, WI 53705-0274

Email: Lmn8xotx@gmail.com

June is Invasive Species Awareness Month

Check out Wisconsin DNR's Fact Sheet at:

http://dnr.wi.gov/news/features/feature.asp?id=10&utm_source=FeatureImage&utm_medium=Homepage&utm_campaign=20130531_Invasives

And don't forget to click on the Calendar of Events to see what's going on in your neighborhood.

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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."