

# Plants Out of Place



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## President's Notes: Annual Meeting Recap

Since our last “Plants out of Place” newsletter, the board has been busy planning and organizing the IPAW annual meeting and the second annual Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) meeting. I’ve also been busy compiling our 2015 annual report. Watch for the final approved version of the report to be posted to the IPAW website in the coming month.

On April 21<sup>st</sup>, IPAW held their member’s annual meeting. The meeting was held during an IPAW sponsored lunch at a two day joint Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) coordinator meeting and CISMA meeting at the Mead Wildlife Area in Milladore, WI. The meetings were well attended both days and provided great networking opportunities for all involved with invasive species.

Being a terrestrial plant person, I found the first day AIS coordinator meeting extremely interesting and learned a lot about aquatic invasive plants as well as coordinator projects. Some of the topics covered during the AIS meeting included AIS grant updates, organisms in trade, and wetland invasive species control processes. My

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“In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt.”

*Margaret Atwood, Author and Environmental Activist*

## President's Notes Continued

biggest take away was learning about the different AIS grant opportunities and the new DNR "Response Framework for Invasive Species".

On the second day during the Cisma meeting, topics covered included a presentation from Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) explaining their nursery inspector's role in preventing the sale of invasive plants, presentations about a statewide invasive species database development, a new website identifying grant opportunities for invasive species, and closing with how to use the Great Lakes Early Detection Network (GLEDN) phone app. The best part of the Cisma meeting was the Cisma updates. This provided all attendees' firsthand knowledge of the breadth of what Cisma's are doing and who they are.



At the IPAW's annual meeting, I presented a summary of the 2015 IPAW annual report. This included a summary of IPAW's accomplishments from 2015 (identified below). I also covered some membership statistics, the board of directors, and a financial summary. Finally, I would like to personally give a big THANK YOU to all of our members, volunteers and donors. IPAW wouldn't

be where we are today without them. Again, watch for the final report to be posted to the website to read the details.

### 2015 Annual Report Accomplishments:

- Education and outreach
- Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) coordination
- Membership recruitment and retention plan
- Legislative outreach and coordination
- 2016 Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference (UMISC)

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## An Online Guide to Financial Resources for Invasive Species Control

### By: Michael Putnam, Wisconsin DNR

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A [list](#) of financial resources for controlling invasive species of all kinds has been posted on the Governor's Wisconsin Invasive Species Council [website](#) under the "resources" tab. The list, prepared by the Department of Natural Resource's Invasive Species Team, provides links or other contact information to funding sources provided by federal and state agencies along with private foundations.

The list can be searched by grantee and taxa eligibility. Eligible grantees range from government agencies, tribal and local governments, businesses, non-profit organizations to private individuals. Eligible taxa include plant pests and diseases, invasive plants, aquatic invasive species and invasive animals, both invertebrate and vertebrate. Eligibility categories can be selected using one or both of the drop-down menus.

Some grants are solely for invasive species work. Others include work on invasive species as part of a larger goal. For example, DNR wildlife stamp grants can support invasive species control as part improving the habitat of game birds and waterfowl.

The webpage has an email link by which you can alert us to out-of-date information and broken links. Please use them if you encounter these problems and, especially, to inform us of funding opportunities not included in the list.

# Jumping Worms – What is the Problem?

## By: Bernie Williams, Wisconsin DNR

Jumping worms are an invasive earthworm that can damage landscapes and forests in Wisconsin. They were first found in Wisconsin in Madison in the autumn of 2013. In 2014 they were found widespread in metropolitan areas of Madison and Milwaukee. In 2015 a further 20 counties were found to have populations. Prior to these finds, we did not anticipate worms in the genus *Amyntas* to be an immediate threat to the state.

They are a **restricted** species under Invasive Species Rule ([Wis. Adm. Code ch. NR 40](#)). Which defines them as a species that may not be purchased, bought, introduced, shared or spread within the state. By following the [BMPs and Reasonable Precautions](#) we hope to minimize and prevent further spread.

### Background Information

Potential damage:

- Rapid consumption of leaf litter and mulch layers leading to exposure of soil and roots.
- Worms feed on roots and may lead to failure of herbaceous plants and seedlings.
- Soil processed by these worms becomes pelletized and less suitable for plants.

Spread:

- Potted plants, balled and burlapped nursery stock
- Soil, compost or mulch
- Widely available and sold online under many different common names for:
  - Bait. Though they are not known to be sold at Wisconsin bait shops.
  - Composting, due to their voracious appetite.
- Introduction and use of these worms is potentially vast as we continue to categorize uses and sources. Accidental introductions may have been going on for many years.
- Adult worms don't survive Wisconsin winters but the cocoons do.
- Once introduced to an area, they spread on their own more quickly than European worms (both because of their activity and higher, more frequent reproductive rate).
- The public is increasingly aware of their presence and has been invaluable in reporting.

Biology:

- 51 species within the genus *Amyntas*. Native to Southeast Asia. Unlike other worms, it is impossible to see egg-containing cocoons or young worms in the soil without a microscope.
- Adult worms live on the surface, are very active and easily found where present.
- Short generation time and populations can increase rapidly in response to abundant food.
- Thrashing behavior on disturbance may affect/reduce predation and parasitism compared with European worms.
- Appear to out-compete other worms, eventually excluding other species where *Amyntas* is present. Possible allelopathy has not been confirmed.



## What to do if You Find an NR 40 Species For Sale

### By: Amy Kretlow, Wisconsin DNR



It's a nice spring day, and you're walking through the local garden store. As a plant catches your eye, you stop and do a double take. You look again, and yes, the plant for sale is prohibited water lettuce. What should you do in this situation? Should you tell the manager? Say something to a store clerk? Should you report it to anyone? This scenario happens to all of us in the invasive species control world at some point.

You can help. First and most importantly, don't announce yourself. The Wisconsin DNR and Department of Agriculture (DATCP) have been working closely with many establishments and have already built relationships with many of these vendors. We ask you don't announce yourself because we may have already visited, or have planned to visit, many retailers during the warmer months for inspections and educational visits.

In May 2015, the NR40 law was updated, and now includes a phase-out period. This means that approximately 28 species that were added to the restricted list in 2015 now have a phase-out period and can be sold from stock for three to five years, depending on the species. This does not include any plant that was originally on the restricted list in 2009, or any prohibited plant.

We ask that if a **regulated** species is found for sale, please do not announce yourself; just take note of the species, and photos if possible. In the photos, include the species and the tag, both sides, which go along with that particular species. Also take note of the name of the establishment, address, and date found. [Email the Wisconsin DNR](#) this information. This information is very helpful to the Wisconsin DNR and DATCP to locate where invasive species are sold. Between the efforts of the Wisconsin DNR and DATCP, many retailers are visited annually, but we cannot visit them all during the short growing season. Your tips help us find where invasive species are sold, and help us to slow the spread of invasive species in Wisconsin.

If you find an invasive species, email [invasive.species@wi.gov](mailto:invasive.species@wi.gov). Please include:

- Pictures of the species (include both sides of the tag)
- Name of the establishment
- Address
- Date found
- Your contact information

Thank you for your help with reducing the number of invasive species sold in Wisconsin!

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## Congratulations to the 2016 Invader Crusader Winners!

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And the winners are... Debra Feirer, Mike Fort, Fritz Funk, Fred and Mary Kueffer, Valerie Stabenow, Tim Campbell, Michelle Nault, Brock Woods, Lower Chippewa Invasive Species Partnership, Mequon Nature Preserve Restoration Rangers, Sauk Prairie Conservation Alliance, and Mike Fort.

Come to a free event congratulating this year's winners at 1 pm on June 9, 2016 at the Horicon Marsh Education and Visitors Center located at N7725 WI-28, Horicon, Wisconsin. Hope to see you there!





## CISMA Spotlight: WHIP Celebrates Successful 2016 Annual Meeting

By: Rosie Page, WHIP Coordinator

When you're a tiny co-op group up in the Northwoods, it's really hard to see your Partners regularly. So the Annual Meeting ("the Big Event"), becomes oh-so-important as the one time every year when folks from many of your 15 partner groups will all be in the same room! You look forward to the discussion, idea exchange, and planning. And then, the weather forecast predicts a blizzard, and you realize, "oh yeah, it's MARCH".

This was our scenario this year. We are the Wisconsin Headwaters Invasives Partnership (WHIP), formed in 2009, now with 15 formal Partners and a part-time Coordinator. Serving Oneida and Vilas Counties, WHIP is entirely grant-funded. When you serve a relatively large geographic area with a small population, you just hope that you've chosen the right location for the Annual Meeting, and that interested folks will come out despite the weather. So on that day a couple of weeks ago, we watched the clock tick down towards 9 am, and as the snowfall became heavier, the door started to open, and they came! By 9:01 we had a full room, breathed sighs of relief, refilled our coffee cups, and started our presentations.

We had invited our speakers with the hopes of hearing success stories (a rarity, when you work in the field of invasive species), and we were not disappointed. Our Steering Committee Member, Michele Sadauskas, presented her work on one of the only two sites of *Phragmites* in Oneida County. Over the past two seasons, she has collaborated with the WDNR team to get this spot treated, and form plans for restoration. It's significant, because less than a mile away there are plans for new recreational trails along a waterway, and now thankfully the chances of *Phragmites* spread are effectively halted. Our WDNR guest, Linda Williams, spoke about unfortunate new sightings of Emerald Ash Borer, which first appeared in our county 1.5 years ago. Linda cautioned those of us who live within 15 miles of a known EAB site that **now** is the time to treat any ash trees we wish to protect.

To bring a wider perspective to the table, we also had an excellent presentation from Ben Parsons, Training Coordinator for FISTA, the Forest Industry Safety & Training Alliance, who talked about the growing invasive species awareness among workers in the timber industry. Ben reminded us that loggers are often 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> generation with long valuable histories on the land, and it is quintessential to keep them involved in communication on invasive species best management. It should be mentioned that Ben's hugely entertaining slides (hello green aliens!) were a standout for the crowd!

Next, we welcomed an IPAW Board Member, Jeremy Chiamulera, who updated us on IPAW's priorities over the past two years, in supporting CISMA groups like ours. Although our Coordinator sees first-hand how useful IPAW is, many of our Partners had not been familiar with the ways in which IPAW helps us out: covering the costs of mileage or meals at regional meetings, distributing our brochures at public events, and (in my opinion the most useful) helping organize state-wide conference calls for Coordinators to exchange ideas and "check-in" with each other. WHIP is glad to have an IPAW Board Member nearby and we plan to expand contact with him. Thanks Jeremy!

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## WHIP Continued

Other event highlights included: a group discussion (facilitated by Vilas County's Cathy Higley) on Partner projects and how WHIP can better assist them, a run-down of our ongoing Citizen Monitoring project using the Great Lakes Early Detection Network app to identify invasive plants, success stories of our Garlic Mustard Pulls, and how we accessed WDNR funds to treat an early detected site of Wild Chervil. WHIP also voted to adopt our newly created Strategic Plan, which helps focus our goals and priorities.

Our Annual Meeting ended with a true highlight: students from nearby Sugar Camp Elementary School delivered their conservation-themed speeches for us, and it was truly heartening to hear these young people speak confidently about lakeside nature observation, road recycling, and soil erosion. Thank you to them and their dedicated teacher, Ms. Marci Spears, for joining us!

If you are in the WHIP area or wish to know more about us, please contact our Coordinator, [Rosie Page](#), or our newly elected Chair, [Justin Meier](#), or take a look at our developing [website](#). Thanks!

## Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference to be Held In La Crosse, Wisconsin – October 17-19, 2016

By: Belle Bergner, UMISC Conference Administrator and Owner, Bergner Associates



The fifth biennial Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference (UMISC) will be back in La Crosse, Wisconsin for the second time on October 17-19, 2016. Fall colors should be at their peak just in time to enjoy a scenic hike, bike ride, or paddle on the Mississippi River after learning about the latest tools and state-of-the-art techniques to improve invasive species management.

As one of the largest venues on invasive species in North America, this biennial conference showcases ways people can help to prevent, control and minimize impacts of invasive species, which is a multi-billion-dollar-a-year problem.

The 2-½ day conference will offer six concurrent sessions, two plenaries, several field trips to local invasive species management and research sites, and ample breaks and receptions to network, share your stories and socialize.

UMISC covers terrestrial, aquatic, and inter-taxa invasive species challenges. Presentations will focus on integrated pest management and innovations in control techniques, among other topics, during concurrent sessions, plenaries, workshops, and field trips. Invited invasive species experts will speak on diverse issues ranging from policy, risk assessment, to adaptive evolution in a rapidly changing climate.

For the first time, a special workshop for Attorney Generals of the Mississippi River Basin will be held in conjunction with UMISC on the second and third days of the conference.

Conference host organizations include the Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin, Midwest Invasive Plant Network, and Minnesota Invasive Species Advisory Council.

Full conference registration ranges from \$250 for regular attendees to \$125 for students (see link for IPAW member discount). One-day passes are also available. Exhibit tables, booths, and sponsorship opportunities are still available. For further information, visit <http://www.umisc.net> or call the UMISC Office at 414-967-1350.

# Volunteers Needed!

At the 2016 Wisconsin Farm Technology Days  
July 19 – 21, 2016 in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

The [Wisconsin Farm Technology Days](#) is the largest agricultural show in Wisconsin and one of the largest in the nation. The three-day outdoor event showcases the latest improvements in production agriculture, including many practical applications of recent research findings and technological developments.

IPAW will have a booth identifying and educating people about invasive species.

Volunteer for a shift and stay to enjoy the show. You will receive a free entry pass for volunteering. Send [Michele](#) an email if you are interested in helping out.

## The IPAW Bounty Program

By: Diane Schauer, IPAW Board Member

Did you know that IPAW sponsors a bounty to individuals reporting prohibited plant species found in Wisconsin? The bounty is a rewards program designed to encourage individuals to look for and report prohibited invasive plants as listed in WDNR NR40. IPAW does this because preventing these species from getting established and spreading is so very important. When reported, the WDNR will work with the landowner, land manager or local volunteers and other partners to get the plants contained and, where possible, eradicated. There are a few rules to follow to receive the \$25 or \$50 Bounty.

First of all, only legally NR40 **prohibited** terrestrial, wetland, and aquatic plants reported in a county where they were previously unknown, are eligible. Planted specimens are not eligible for the bounty, although they definitely should be reported. For each confirmed report with photographs, but without a voucher specimen, you will earn \$25. For each confirmed report with a voucher specimen, you will earn \$50. For additional details, visit IPAW's website, at [Invasive Plant Bounty – Guidelines](#) and you will find all the information you need to submit a request for the Bounty.

Here's how it works out in the real world, or in this case, on the water. Kayaker and Master Gardener, Valerie Stabenow, noticed a "different" plant when kayaking near her home. She went over to look at the plant and identified it as NR40 prohibited water hyacinth. Valerie recorded the location and the GPS coordinates, took photos and pulled plants. The next day she delivered a specimen for confirmation and vouchering to the Oshkosh DNR office. Yes indeed, they confirmed the plant as water hyacinth.

After that, the WDNR and other partners swooped in and helped her pull many trash bags of water hyacinth from the area around Winneconne. Plans are in place for follow-up in 2016 and beyond.

Valerie found a Prohibited plant in the wild, and reported it properly. This will allow folks to follow-up and ensure that the plant will be contained or eliminated. For her sharp eyes, attention to detail, and willingness to provide the information needed, Valerie earned the \$50 Bounty.



## New Invaders to Watch Out For and Report in 2016

By: Kelly Kearns, Wisconsin DNR



Lesser Celandine -  
photo by Mike Putnam



Narrow Leaf Bittercress -  
photo by Leslie Merhoff



Wild Chervil -  
photo by Jill Hapner

Each year seems to bring new invasives to our region and state. We have several species that we particularly need people to look for. These are **prohibited** or early detection species that we want to stop from spreading ASAP. Your timely reporting is critical to getting new invaders controlled prior to their going to seed or expanding their range. Please submit your reports to [Invasive.Species@wi.gov](mailto:Invasive.Species@wi.gov) or via the [GLEDN app](#). The following species are listed in order of their flowering time:

**Lesser Celandine/Fig Buttercup (*Ranunculus ficaria*)** – This small non-native **prohibited** buttercup is a very early blooming spring ephemeral, with its showy bright yellow flowers out as early as mid-April. The glossy bright green leaves only reach 3-5” in height, but forms a dense mat, excluding all other plants. Although this plant can produce seeds and has tubers, it appears to spread primarily by vegetative bulbils. These structures are formed in the leaf axils and can break off and disperse before flowering is completed. Each bulbil can start a new plant. They likely spread by floating downstream or being moved by rodents. They seem to be found mostly in forested riverbanks, and then move throughout the forest and floodplain.

**Narrow Leaf Bittercress (*Cardamine impatiens*)** – Another invasive mustard from Europe! This **prohibited** species has only been reported from one area, the village of Shorewood in Dane County, although it could show up anywhere in the state. It is usually biennial, forming a rosette the first year with 3-11 lobed leaflets on pinnately divided leaves. As the plant sends up the flowering stalk the second year, the 6-20 leaflets are more sharply pointed. Small four-petaled white flowers develop at the ends of axillary branches on the 6-20” flowering plants. Like its better-known relative, these flowers quickly develop into long seed pods (siliques). Seeds are easily moved by people and can easily disperse in forests, floodplains, wetlands, grasslands and disturbed areas. They are easily hand pulled, but must be disposed of carefully if already flowering or in seed.

**Wild Chervil (*Anthriscus sylvestris*)** – This white flowering invasive is already found in some counties, where it is **restricted**. However, it has not yet been reported in most counties, many of which have this as a **prohibited** species. It tends to get started on roadsides, where mowers easily spread it. If not controlled, it can continue to spread into adjacent forests, grasslands and unplowed fields. It has fern-like leaves that are nearly hairless and the leaf base clasps the stem. It generally reaches 4-6’ and flowers in early summer. Mowing must be done at the early flowering stage, or it will result in seeds being spread. Spraying should be done before flowering or early flowering.

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## New Invaders Continued



Policeman's Helmet  
- photo by Barbara  
Tokarska-Guzik



Japanese Hedge Parsley  
- photo by Gary Fewless



Japanese Hops -  
photo by Matt Zine



Star of Bethlehem

**Policeman's Helmet (*Impatiens glandulifera*)** – This **prohibited** plant is a larger relative to our native jewelweeds. Although it is an annual, it can grow up to 8-10' tall in one season. The stout but fleshy, smooth, hollow stems have a reddish color and can be over 1" in diameter. Branches are formed at swollen nodes. Leaves are paired or in whorls and are large, simple, and toothed, with a pointed tip. Flowers arise from the leaf axils and are spurred, large and generally a magenta color, although they can range from white to pink to purple. Spreading only by seed, it can form dense stands in forests, riparian areas, open grasslands, meadows, lake edges, and other disturbed areas. If found before seeds have developed, this plant is easily controlled by hand pulling.

**Japanese Hedge Parsley (*Torilis japonica*)** – Although this herbaceous invader has been spreading in southwest and south-central Wisconsin for at least ten years, it has only recently started spreading in other parts of the state. It frequently spreads from trails or roadsides, and then into adjacent forests. It can invade forests, edges and full sun. This is one of many "weedy white umbels", invasive plants with white umbrella shaped flowers in the parsnip family, including wild chervil, poison hemlock, scarlet pimpernel, goutweed and giant hogweed. Hedge parsley overwinters as a rosette of finely divided fern-like leaves and flowers mid-summer. All of these plants are still in an early detection phase in most of the state and new populations should be reported and controlled before seeds are produced.

**Japanese Hops (*Humulus japonicus*)** – This fast growing vine is considered to be an annual, but there is evidence that some roots may overwinter. Seeds are produced on female plants in the fall and spread downstream and along flood plains. It can easily overtake all other plants in an area, then dies back after a frost, exposing shorelines to erosion. It can be distinguished from the native beer hops by several characteristics. Leaves always have at least 5 lobes and petioles tend to be longer than the leaf blade. Compared to the native hops, it is less deeply lobed and has more extensive recurved prickles along the leaves and stems that catch clothing and rip skin. This vine is already so widespread in some of the river systems in the southwest part of the state that it is regulated as **restricted** there. Elsewhere in the state it is **prohibited** and should be reported and controlled immediately.

**Star of Bethlehem (*Ornithogolum umbellatum*)** – This late spring flowering bulb has been a common garden plant for decades, but we are getting more reports of it taking over gardens. Other states report it spreading in forests and stream banks. If you see this plant in forests or other natural areas, please report it. The narrow 6-8" leaves are dark green with a white stripe down the middle, usually found in dense clusters. Flowers are held upright on strong upright stems, opening mid-day. They have 6 white petals, each with a long green triangle on the underside. They reproduce by bulbs, bulbils and seeds. Hand pulling and digging takes vigilance.

# Save the Date!

## Where Ecology Meets Economy: Season 4

### September 21, 2016

A Forum for Land Managers and the Green Industry  
8:00am - 3:30pm, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin

Don't miss this opportunity to network with land managers, growers, arborists, landscape architects and many other professionals. This innovative event will focus on protecting pollinator habitat and feature presentations, panel discussions, plus guided tours discussing ways the green industry and land managers can benefit our native plant and animal habitat and each other. [More](#)

#### IPAW Board Members:

Christa Wollenzien, IPAW  
President, Wisconsin Department  
of Transportation

Mark Feider, IPAW Vice-  
President, Milwaukee Audubon  
Society

Willis Brown, IPAW Treasurer,  
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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.

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  
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Thank you for your support!

#### 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."*