

# Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area

*Working together to protect the northwoods of Wisconsin  
from the impacts of invasive species*

Issue No 12 - April 2012

## It'll All Come Out In The Wash

The Northwoods CWMA has a new tool in its arsenal this summer. Boaters, be on the lookout for a power washer and pair of college students this summer. More on [Page 2](#)



## Private Forestlands and Invasive Species

Forest management plans can help woodland landowners when it comes to invasives. [Page 3](#)

## Get to Know Before You Grow

Reprinted from last April's edition, some timely and important tips for gardeners. [Page 4](#)

## Introducing...



**Diane Daulton**, the new Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist with the Wisconsin DNR.

Diane is based out of Ashland, but will be working throughout the Lake Superior basin counties to support invasive species work and conduct a wide variety of outreach activities.

Diane brings many years of experience to the position and an understanding of Northwoods issues garnered from her work with local landowners and conservation partners. Her

career highlights include more than 15 years experience working as County Conservationist for the formerly combined Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, and Iron County Land Conservation Department (ABDI-LCD), and as County Conservationist in Price County.

Most recently she worked with UW-Extension as a Natural Resource Educator based in Park Falls where she was part of the Upper Chippewa Invasive Species Cooperative team. Diane was also involved in the Northwoods CWMA in its infancy, and we're happy to have her back on board.

This summer, part of her job will be helping the DNR to inventory area lakes collecting data to help guide future management priorities for the Lake Superior basin and support Wisconsin's strategies to fight AIS. The project will build upon the cooperative work of agencies and

*(continued on page 2)*

*(from page 1)* volunteers including the Northwoods CWMA!

Diane looks forward to sharing her knowledge, creativity, and passion for water resources with established partners and new friends in Wisconsin's coastal counties. She will be working hard to share information with residents and visitors about aquatic invasive species prevention through programs like Project RED and helping to

coordinate purple loosestrife control efforts in the region. Contact her if you are interested in resources such as brochures, stickers, signs, and other materials.

Diane lives in Gurney, Wisconsin, where she enjoys various outdoor pursuits, music, rock-picking, photography and art, gardening, and hanging out with canine and equine friends. She can be reached at 715-817-4200 or [diane.daulton@wisconsin.gov](mailto:diane.daulton@wisconsin.gov).

## as they say... "it'll all come out in the wash"

The Northwoods CWMA has a new tool in its arsenal this summer, thanks to the U.S. Forest Service and funding from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. A portable power washer will be making the rounds through the Northwoods CWMA area to help boaters and others stop the spread of invasive species. Two students from Northland College will accompany the unit to talk with boaters about the importance of cleaning their equipment, and demonstrate some helpful techniques.

While it is important to pull aquatic plants from boats, trailers, and other gear, this approach is not effective at preventing the spread of fish diseases such as VHS (viral hemorrhagic septicemia). With just a visual inspection, it is also easy to miss small critters like invasive snails or spiny water fleas, which could be transported to a healthy lake and start a new infestation. When it is available, using a power washer may be more effective at preventing the spread of such species.

The power washer will make its debut at the Kid's Fishing Day event on June 2 at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center near Ashland, WI. If you would like to have the traveling power washer and its crew at your lake or event this summer, find out whether it is available by contacting the NCWMA Coordinator, Darienne McNamara, at [info@northwoodscwma.org](mailto:info@northwoodscwma.org).



*This portable power washer will be traveling within the NCWMA area with two interns, teaching boaters how to remove aquatic invasive species from their boats, trailers, and other equipment.*



# PRIVATE FORESTLAND

## AND INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT

There are over 360,000 private, non-industrial forest landowners in Wisconsin. Together, these landowners are the caretakers of over 10 million acres of woodlands. People own forests for many reasons - recreation, wildlife, timber, aesthetics, family history - and each landowner has their own goals for their property. Achieving these goals requires some type of management, and even the most hands-off approach to forest management should include invasive species prevention, control and monitoring.

Often times we create opportunities for invasive species to move in without even knowing it. Many of us know that when we create a disturbance, it opens the door for invasives to come in. Things such as timber harvests, prescribed fires, clearing a trail, planting gardens or food plots for wildlife, and transporting firewood can all introduce invasive species. But what you may *not* know is that invasive species don't need an invitation. They may spread from an adjacent property, hitch a ride on wildlife, or come in on passing winds or waters. For this reason, it is important to be on the lookout for invasive plants no matter how we choose to manage our forests.

The best way to care for private forestlands is through a forest management plan. These plans are developed in conjunction with foresters or other experts who can make recommendations based on the characteristics of each property and the desires of the landowner. A plan is designed to 1) identify the landowner's goals and objectives, 2) describe the resource and its

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### DID YOU KNOW?

If you took all the forest land in Wisconsin that is owned by families and individuals, then pieced it all together...

**it would cover one quarter of the state!**

That excludes state forests, national forests, other public lands, and private industrial forestlands.

(from page 3)

condition, and 3) list appropriate management prescriptions and a timetable for their completion. Plans, simple to complex, take many forms and fulfill different needs.

Recently Wisconsin DNR and the Wisconsin Council on Forestry developed a set of invasive species Best Management Practices (online at [council.wisconsinforestry.org/invasives](http://council.wisconsinforestry.org/invasives)) with a set written specifically for forestry. There is also a set of BMPs for recreation, which apply to many forest activities such as hiking, camping, and hunting. Implementing these practices into woodland management can help landowners ensure they are doing what is best for their forest.

If you or someone you know may be interested in more information about forest management planning, visit the DNR website at [dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestLandowners](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestLandowners) and then contact an experienced local forester. The following individuals have experience working with landowners to develop forest management plans, they understand invasive species issues, and are partners of the NCWMA:

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The following article was posted in last year's April Newsletter. It is being reprinted because the content is important and timely.

## Get to Know Before You Grow

Before you purchase plants for your garden this year, be sure you aren't bringing home an invasive species. Consider these helpful tips:

- \* Get to know your garden plants. Look for the scientific name (latin name), as some invasive plants are sold under different trade names. The scientific name is usually printed on the label as two words, first the *genus* and then the *species*.
- \* Look up plants on the UW-Stevens Point herbarium at <http://wisplants.uwsp.edu/namesearch.html>. Enter the *genus* and *species* in the search fields, then follow the link to learn more. You will see a bright "Stop It" icon if the plant is invasive.
- \* Remember to check seed mixes. These often have plants that are invasive in Wisconsin. Also check plants ordered online or by mail.
- \* Take a look at the brochure: *Landscaping Alternatives for Invasive Plants of the Midwest*, available online at [www.mipn.org](http://www.mipn.org) under Publications.
- \* Ask for native plants - they are adapted to our climate, provide habitat for wildlife, and often require less maintenance.
- \* A good rule of thumb: avoid plants that grow fast, tolerate a wide range of growing conditions, or creeping/spreading plants.

Over half of the invasive species in Wisconsin escaped from horticulture and landscaping.

Invasives spread when you aren't looking! Their seeds are carried to natural areas by birds, wind, and flood waters.

Common invasive garden plants include:

- snow-on-the-mountain
- periwinkle (*vinca*)
- salt cedar (*tamarisk*)
- Japanese barberry
- Russian olive