



# Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area

*Working Together to Protect Northern Wisconsin from Invasive Species*

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## Emerald Ash Borer Is Here

In August, the emerald ash borer (EAB) was found in the City of Superior, making it the first case of it being found in the NCWMA, or anywhere in northern Wisconsin for that matter. The City of Superior has taken down a number of ash trees to prevent the spread. The beetle has been responsible for the decline of tens of millions of ash trees. Ash is commonly used on urban streets and is an important forest product.

Emerald ash borer was first found in North America in 2002; Wisconsin in 2008. It is native of Russia, China, and Korea. All species of ash are susceptible, but note that mountain ash is a different genus and not affected. EAB kills ash trees by tunneling into the cambium layer, which contains the parts of the tree that transports water and nutrients.



Emerald Ash Borer

The adult beetle is bullet-shaped and a brilliant metallic green color, 1/2 inch long.

The six-spotted tiger beetle is sometimes confused with EAB as it is also metallic green. The larvae are up to 1/2 inch long and have distinctive bell-shaped segments.

Most infestations start by people moving infested trees, logs, or firewood. Campgrounds and urban areas are currently thought to be the highest risk of EAB introduction. Natural spread of EAB from an infested site is currently thought to be about 1/2 mile per year.



Six-spotted tiger beetle

Some signs that EAB may be present in an ash tree include: a thinning crown, new growth on the trunk, bark splits, and wood chipped off by woodpeckers. Also look for the characteristic S-shaped tunneling beneath the bark, and D-shaped exit holes. There are some effective pesticides that can be applied to individual trees, however, a professional arborist should be contacted for a consultation.

For more information, see [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info). If you suspect an EAB find, please contact the NCWMA Coordinator.



D-shaped exit hole



EAB larvae



S-shaped galleries



## A Successful Summer

Thanks to everyone who attended our events over the summer, and thank you to our summer interns for your work on our projects!



*Did you know....*

The Northwoods CWMA was the first Cooperative Weed Management Area in the state. The first CWMA in the US started in 1992 in the western US and the idea has spread nationwide since.

## Another Newcomer: Japanese hedge-parsley



Japanese hedge-parsley (*Torilis japonica*) is a new invasive plant to the NCWMA. The population was found on US Forest Service property in southwest Ashland County. This plant is a prohibited species in northwest Wisconsin, meaning that the transport, transfer, introduction, and possession is illegal. The USFS has conducted hand pulling and will look to treat with herbicide next year. When looking to identify this plant, look for tiny white flowers in flat-topped umbels, with two or more bracts at the base of each umbel. The alternate, compound, fern-like leaves are slightly hairy, and around 2.5 inches long. If you suspect that you have found Japanese hedge-parsley, please contact the NCWMA Coordinator (info on back page).

# Hunters, Like Boaters and Anglers, are Critical in Preventing the Spread of Invasive Species

By Scott Caven, Ashland County AIS Coordinator



As the temperatures drop and the leaves continue to change color, Wisconsin hunters are heading to the woods 'n' water in hopes of successfully harvesting deer, bear, turkeys, waterfowl, and other wild game – now is the perfect time to remind hunters it's against the law to transport invasive species.



Preventing the spread of invasive species isn't just the responsibility of boaters and anglers, but hunters (and other stakeholders) too! Without proper precautions, hunters are at risk of transporting Eurasian watermilfoil, zebra mussels, purple loosestrife, faucet snails, and other aquatic invasive species, along with garlic mustard, common and glossy buckthorn, exotic honeysuckles, and other terrestrial invasive species.

Invasive species are plants, animals, and pathogens that can take over and cause severe harm to an ecosystem. Invasive plants can crowd out native plants and severely reduce the amount of forage that deer, turkeys, grouse, waterfowl, and other wildlife depend on for survival. Invasive plants can grow extremely thick in a short period of time; reducing cover for native wildlife, blocking game trails, and limiting hunting access for humans. Invasive species can degrade wildlife habitat, reduce biodiversity, and even cause massive die-offs in fish, wildlife, and waterfowl populations.

Whether you're chasing bucks or ducks, turkey or bear, or something in between, do your part to prevent the spread of invasive species to ensure quality hunting in Wisconsin for future generations to enjoy.

Take these steps to ensure that your actions are not part of the problem, but the solution!

### *Follow the prevention steps!*

- Clean off aquatic plants, animals, and mud from boats, motors, trailers, waders, push poles, ATV's, decoys, and hunting dogs.
- Drain your boat, decoys, and equipment and leave the plugs out while traveling.
- Disinfect your gear with high-pressure, hot water (120 degrees for at least two minutes or 140 degrees for at least ten seconds) OR air dry for at least 5 days.

### *Avoid transferring soil and seeds!*

- Brush clothing, shoes, dogs, and equipment before entering and leaving an area.
- Keep motorized vehicles on authorized roads and trails.
- Follow all regulations about building hunting blinds.

### *Spread the word!*

- Inform others about how invasive species affect wildlife at your next chapter meeting of Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, or Rod and Gun Club.

### *Don't move firewood!*

- Buy it locally and burn it all before leaving the area to help stop the spread of destructive insects like the emerald ash borer.



# Come Join Us!



Be sure to look at the Upcoming Events tab on our website, [www.northwoodscwma.org](http://www.northwoodscwma.org), in the coming months for the latest listing of upcoming events. For more information on any of these events or to get involved, please contact us!

The Northwoods CWMA meets at 9:00 AM on the second Tuesday of every month (check the NCWMA website for any date or location changes) at the Northern Great lakes Visitor Center on Highway G near Ashland, WI. The public is always welcome to attend, or just drop by to discuss an invasive species concern or question.

For more information, contact us at [info@northwoodscwma.org](mailto:info@northwoodscwma.org), visit us online at [www.northwoodscwma.org](http://www.northwoodscwma.org) or find us on Facebook.



**Congratulations to Jane Swenson, who was named NCWMA Volunteer of the Year at our annual picnic! Jane has been a dedicated volunteer over the years and has a great passion for killing knotweed! Thank you Jane for all of your work!**



## Invasive Species Photo Contest Winner

We asked for your funniest, ugliest, most impressive photos of invasive species, and we were happy with the results! Thanks to everyone who submitted. Congratulations to our winner, Scott Caven, who won a \$50 gift certificate to True Value Hardware!



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