



Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area

Working Together to Protect Northern Wisconsin from Invasive Species

NCWMA | Issue 27

January 2018

Native Plant Sales

Native plants are wonderful for yard landscaping, and a great way to restore the landscape after removing invasive species! The Ashland County Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) and the Iron County LWCD are each holding native plant sales this year. The Bayfield Regional Conservancy will also host a native plant sale with multiple vendors at the Bayfield Pavilion during Bayfield in Bloom's Annual Garden Tour on June 2nd.

Ashland County LWCD

Native trees available include white pine, jack pine, balsam fir, white spruce, white cedar, northern red oak, and sugar maple. Shrubs include Allegheny serviceberry, highbush cranberry, gray dogwood, winterberry, and mountain ash. Contact the Ashland County LWCD at (715) 682-7187 or visit their website (<http://co.ashland.wi.us/landwaterconservation>) for the order form.

The deadline for orders is February 16th, and the plants will be distributed on May 11th and 12th. The pick-up location is at the Ashland County Highway Garage.

Iron County LWCD

The Iron County LWCD has shrubs and trees including American mountain ash, black cherry, red oak, elderberry, highbush cranberry, ninebark and winterberry. Herbaceous plants available include: yarrow, pearly everlasting, blue giant hyssop, swamp milkweed, boneset, June grass, rough blazing star, black-eyed Susan, little bluestem, cup plant, stiff goldenrod, prairie dropseed, smooth aster, ironweed, maidenhair fern, wood fern and cinnamon fern.

Pick-up locations are in Hurley (Iron County Forestry & Highway Building) or Mercer (Mercer Public Library). Contact the Iron County LWCD at (715) 561-2234 or lakes@ironcountywi.org for an order form. Information is also found on the Iron County LWCD Facebook page.

Orders are due February 23th. Pick-up for tree orders is on May 4th. Pick-up for herbaceous plants is on June 1st.



Highbush Cranberry



Rough Blazing Star

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January Project Planning Meeting

The Northwoods CWMA had a constructive Project Planning Meeting January 16. Fourteen people were in attendance with representatives of each county of the NCWMA (Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas and Iron), GLIFWC, the WDNR, the City of Ashland, the Town of LaPointe, the Bad River Natural Resources Department, and the National Park Service.

Budget update

Ramona Shackelford, the NCWMA Coordinator went over the 2017 budget and current funding levels. The NCWMA balance at the end of 2017 was \$27,252.43 (See Table). Expenses of the NCWMA program during 2017 include the NCWMA coordinator's salary (\$19,522.46), seasonal boat washer's salary (\$5,843.69), rent for the NCWMA office in the Bayfield County LWCD (\$1,786.65), boat washer maintenance (\$118.91), mileage (\$1,841.13), and website fee, printing, & pesticide applicator test (\$243.91). The NCWMA was notified in November of a DNR Weed Management Area-Private Forest Grant award of \$13,710. This will help fund treating garlic mustard on private lands as well as invasive species education. In addition, the U.S. Forest Service notified the NCWMA of additional Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Boat Washer funding of \$15,000.00 in January. Ramona applied for a \$40,000 grant through the U.S. Forest Service's GLRI-Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant opportunity that was due January 5th. Notification for this grant will be in February.

NCWMA Funding and Expenditure Summary for 2017

	Start Balance	Expenses	End Balance
U.S. Forest Service Weed Cooperative Agreement	\$43,496.64	\$19,092.44	\$24,404.20
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Boat Washer	\$11,296.33	\$8,526.51	\$2,792.73
DNR Weed Management Area-Private Forest Grant	\$1,737.80	\$1,737.80	\$0.00
USFS SUP Coop	\$492.12	\$492.12	\$0.00
Total:	\$57,078.39	\$29,848.87	\$27,252.43

2017 Treatments and 2018 Treatment Plans

The group went over treatments of invasive species that were done in 2017 throughout the NCWMA. Past treatments and 2018 treatment plans were discussed for garlic mustard, knotweed species, non-native Phragmites, wild parsnip, purple loosestrife, buckthorn species, leafy spurge, cut-leaf teasel, giant hogweed, and yellow iris. Garlic mustard sites and treatments were discussed in the most detail. The group planned two large spring garlic mustard hand-pull events along the Bad River floodplain in the Mellen area and along the Montreal River in the Hurley area. The Bad River population is over 200 acres and the Montreal River population is 40.5 acres (18.4 of which is in Wisconsin). Garlic mustard hand-pull events were discussed for a site in Washburn and two areas of Ashland. Ashland also has a large site which has not been thoroughly treated due to its difficult location. Finding a way to treat this site was discussed.

GLIFWC treated many sites in 2017 of non-native Phragmites, wild parsnip, and purple loosestrife throughout the region. They will continue to treat these sites. Iron County also treated purple loosestrife and wild parsnip. Wild parsnip has been spreading rapidly along roads and powerlines in recent years.

Cut-leaf teasel is relatively new to the area and has five known sites which were all treated in 2017. The group has a goal to eradicate the species before it spreads. Buckthorns are not regularly treated in the area due to their extensive populations. A study of treatment methods of buckthorn is being done in Douglas County. Selecting certain sites of buckthorn to treat may be considered. La Pointe and the Bayfield County Forestry Department will be removing and treating buckthorn in 2018 (after meeting update).

Yellow iris has populations that were treated by clipping the flowers in Bayfield and Ashland Counties. GLIFWC treats a population in the Fish Creek Slough. The known sites of giant hogweed in Iron County are treated and under control. Bayfield County AIS treats numerous giant and Japanese knotweed populations. Japanese knotweeds were also treated in Iron County, the City of Ashland, and a site in Douglas County. GLIFWC will be surveying and consider treating a known population of Dalmatian toadflax in 2018. European marsh thistle (*Cirsium palustre*) was noted as a species that should be considered for future treatments. Purple Moor Grass (*Molinia caerulea subsp arundinacea*) is a species with one known site in the region, that the group may consider treating.



Invasive Species Spotlight: Cut-leaf Teasel

Cut-leaf teasel (*Dipsacus laciniatus*) was first found in 2005 in Ashland County and is a relatively uncommon invasive species in the NCWMA. Since there are only five known sites, this species could be eradicated from the area with persistent treatments and vigilance. All of the sites were treated in 2017, and plans are to treat them again in 2018. In order to eradicate this species, it is important to find any other populations.

Be on the lookout for this species in the coming year and report any occurrences to the NCWMA! Common teasel (*Dipsacus foliolosus*) could also potentially be in the area. These species look very similar. Sometimes teasels are in dried in flower arrangements. The species typically occurs in disturbed openings such as roadsides, but could creep into native openings such as sedge meadows.

Identifying characteristics of both species of teasel: Teasels are biennials with first year plants having only a basal rosette. Second year plants can be up to seven feet tall with prickly stems. Flower-heads are cylindrical, densely packed, spiny and occur on a long, naked stalks. Stem leaves are opposite and can be up to 12 inches long.

Cut-leaf teasel (photos): Leaves can be deeply pinnately lobed. Flowers are usually are white. Bracts are shorter than the flower-head.

Common teasel: Leaves are lance-shaped. Flowers tend to be pink to purple. Bracts are longer than the flower-head.

Source: Czarapata, Elizabeth. 2005. *Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest*. University of Wisconsin Press. Madison, WI. pp 59-60.



New NCWMA Coordinator

Ramona Shackleford began her position as the Coordinator for Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area (NCWMA) in November 2017. Ramona has a B.S. degree in Zoology from the UW-Madison and an M.S. degree in Biological Sciences from the UW-Milwaukee, where her thesis focused on the conservation of the rare plant, forked aster (*Eurybia furcata*). Ramona has worked as a field botanist for different organizations including the Ottawa National Forest, Chippewa National Forest, Red Lake Indian Reservation, Lumberjack RC&D, and Coleman Engineering. Ramona also has experience completing wetland delineations, rare plant surveys, plant inventories within plots, and conservation assessments for the U.S. Forest Service.

Ramona grew up in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. She currently lives in Gile, Wisconsin with her husband and two children. She enjoys biking, canoeing, camping, cross-country skiing, traveling, and reading. Ramona has been involved in my community as a city commissioner in Ironwood, Michigan, the president of the Friends of the Miners Memorial Heritage Park (FMMHP), the coordinator of the Gogebic County 4-H Tech Wizards program through Michigan State University Extension, and a board member of the Downtown Art Place in Ironwood.





NCWMA Notes

March NCWMA Meeting

The next NCWMA meeting will be on **March 13th at 9 am at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center (2nd Floor Conference Room)**. **The public is welcome!** Meetings are every other month, typically the second Tuesday at 9 am.

If you have any thoughts on events or projects that the NCWMA should put on or be apart of, please let us know!

KoBo App Training

The NCWMA will have a special KoBo App Training on **April 10th at 9 am at the GLIFWC Office in Odanah**. GLIFWC uses this application on cell phones to track invasive species sites and record site information. More details regarding this training will be shared as the date approaches. Bring your phone! (Android phones work best, but Apples can work too).

2018 NCWMA Newsletters

The NCWMA would like to make quarterly newsletters informative about area work on invasive species projects in the four county region of the NCWMA, as well as educate readers about invasive species, their impacts, and their treatments. Partners and concerned citizens are welcome to write articles, share photos, and/or suggest topics for newsletters. Contact Ramona with ideas for future newsletters!

NCWMA Invasive Species Calendar

Groups that have public invasive species events or know of relevant events are welcome to share dates and information with Ramona to post on the NCWMA calendar which is on the NCWMA website. Check out the website to keep track of upcoming events!

Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU)

The NCWMA will be renewing partnership agreements with partners this year. Ramona will be contacting partners in the coming months to renew agreements. New partnerships are welcome!

Reminder of the Invasive Species Rule - NR 40

Certain non-native species in Wisconsin are regulated by the invasive species rule developed by the DNR known as NR 40. This rule was developed to decrease the spread of invasive species and enable a rapid response to control new infestations. The rule bans the transport, transfer, or introduction of invasive species listed as "restricted" or "prohibited" in Wisconsin. Possession of species listed as prohibited is also banned. Although there are hundreds of non-native plants in the state, species that may cause significant economic harm, environmental harm, or may harm human health have been listed with the NR 40 rule. The priority species of the NCWMA are listed by the NR 40 rule. For more information go to the Wisconsin-DNR website: <https://dnr.wi.gov/files/pdf/pubs/ss/ss1160.pdf>

For More Information

Contact the NCWMA at info@northwoodscwma.org, visit us online at www.northwoodscwma.org, or find us on Facebook.

For more photos, check out our Flickr page: www.flickr.com/photos/northwoodscwma/

Report invasive species infestations easily through the NCWMA website! Click on "Report an invasive species to the NCWMA" On the right side of the page.