

Control and Management

Control and management of invasive species is accomplished using modern resource management methods. Several methods may be used together in an overall strategy to protect ecosystems and aid in their recovery.

Strategies are analyzed and adjusted as needed, and work (including follow-up and monitoring) is conducted for many years.

Control efforts reduce invasive species to more acceptable levels, and management prevents their spread or re-emergence.

Manual control techniques include activities such as hand-pulling, digging, flooding, mulching, burning, removal of alternate hosts, and manual destruction or removal of nests, egg masses or other life stages.

Prescribed fire as a control technique, know and follow local burning regulations - check local ordinances.

Mechanical control techniques include hoeing, cutting, girdling, tilling, mowing, chopping and constructing barriers using tools or machines.

Chemical control refers to the use of pesticides, and for all practical purposes, some invasive organisms cannot be controlled without the use of pesticides.

Biological control refers to the use of animals, fungi, or diseases to control invasive populations.

Cultural control is the manipulation of forest structure and composition to control invasive species or the alteration of the stand so that effects will be limited if invasion occurs.

Disposal

Many weeds, like garlic mustard, continue to develop seeds once they have been pulled from the ground. For plants like this, effective control means that you must remove the flowering plants from the site to keep the seed from spreading.

Why Should I Care?

Invasive species have a negative affect in the following areas:

- Ecosystems
- Recreation
- Health
- Economics

Additional Information

Invasive Plant Association of Wisconsin
<http://www.ipaw.org/>

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
<http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/>

Midwest Invasive Plant Network
<http://mipn.org/>

Wetland Invasives
<http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/species.asp?filterBy=Wetland&filterVal=Y>

Printed & Distributed by:
Mayville Area Chamber of Commerce
Mayville, Wisconsin
info@mayvillechamber.com
2011



Invasive Species



Reed Canary Grass



Garlic Mustard



Buckthorn

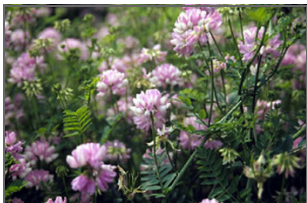
Invasive plant species are plants that are not native to this area that have either been intentionally introduced or have escaped cultivation. These plants threaten the ecological balance of our natural lands by displacing native plant species. Invasives lack the predators and disease that keep them in balance in their native habitats.

Invasive Species

Invasive species are plants and animals that are "out of place." A species is regarded as invasive if it has been introduced by human action to a location, area, or region where it did not previously occur naturally becomes capable of establishing a breeding population in the new location without further intervention by humans, and spreads widely throughout the new location. An invasive plant both invades native plant communities and impacts those native communities by displacing or replacing native vegetation.

Many invasive plants get their foothold through well-meaning gardeners who introduce the species as a lovely accent to their patch of paradise. However, many of these plants come from foreign lands and do not have the natural controls that a native plant has. Soon the nonnative plant takes over - first the garden and then, by propagating via the wind, through deep-set runners and by the cooperation of willing birds carrying the seeds to more distant places and even on the soles of our shoes.

One of the reasons that invasive species are able to succeed is that they often leave their predators and competitors behind in their native ecosystems. Without these natural checks and balances they are able to reproduce rapidly and out-compete native species. Invasive species can alter ecological relationships among native species and can affect ecosystem function, economic value of ecosystems, and human health.



Crown Vetch

Why are They a Problem?

People have created conditions where plants and animals can aggressively overrun and control natural areas and water bodies in three ways:



1. Introducing exotic species (from other regions or countries) who lack natural competitors and predators to keep them in check.
2. Disrupting the delicate balance of native ecosystems by changing environmental conditions (e.g., stream sedimentation, ditching, building roads) or by restricting or eliminating natural processes (e.g., fire). In such instances, even some native plants and animals can become invasive.
3. Spreading invasive species through various methods. Some examples include:
 - * Moving watercrafts from waterbody to waterbody without removing invasive plants and animals
 - * Carrying seeds of invasive plants on footwear or pet's fur
 - * Mowing along roadsides
 - * Importing firewood and leaving in campgrounds
 - * Driving and biking with invasive seeds in tire treads

The net result is a loss of diversity of our native plants and animals as invasive species rapidly multiply and take over. About 42% of the species on the federal Threatened or Endangered species lists are at risk primarily because of invasive species.

What Can I Do?

- ◆ Learn how to identify invasive species and teach others.
- ◆ Use native plant alternatives for landscaping.
- ◆ Remove invasives from your property.
- ◆ Volunteer to remove invasive species from public areas.
- ◆ Check your property each year for invasive plants.
- ◆ Clean clothing and shoes thoroughly after being in an infested area.
- ◆ Notify landowners or land managers of invasions.
- ◆ Promote healthy native plant communities.
- ◆ Support organizations like Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin (IPAW).

