

Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership:

A CWMA in progress



Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area

Chicago
Wilderness



How we got started
It did not happen overnight

2003 – Local partners received funding from Chicago Wilderness (CW) to develop and implement a regional Early Detection and Rapid Response Program (New Invaders Watch Program (NIWP)) and to establish a pilot Cooperative Weed Management Area in Lake and McHenry Counties.

2008 – Chicago Wilderness Natural Resource Management Team expresses interest in establishing a CWMA in the Chicago region. In partnership with the Midwest Invasive Plant Network, local partners and CW host a workshop for over 65 organizations and agencies in the Chicago area to learn about CWMA's and discuss the merit of forming a regional CWMA in the Chicago Region.

Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area, Grundy County, IL



The saga continues . . .

2008/2009 – An ad hoc committee is formed to develop a model of how a CWMA in the Chicago region might be organized. Partners develop a long term work plan for the CWMA based on partner needs expressed in the workshop.

2010 – Chicago Wilderness receives \$96,000 of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Funds from the US Forest Service to start up a CWMA in northeast Illinois, which includes the Lake Michigan watershed. Partners hire a regional Invasive Plant Management Coordinator and “NIIPP” is born.

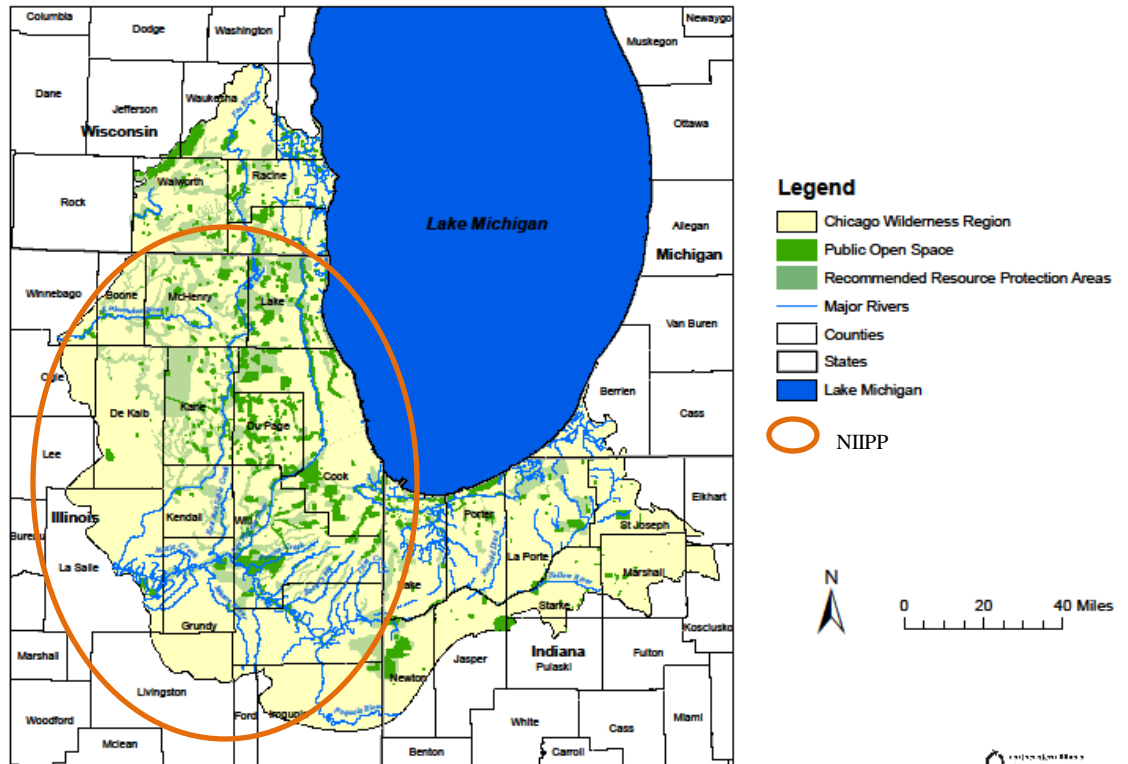


Lake in the Hills Prairie, McHenry County, IL

Chicago Wilderness

- Founded 14 years ago
- Alliance of 254 partner organizations
- Multiple initiatives and collaborations
- Over 370,000 acres of natural areas

The Chicago Wilderness Region



Chicago Wilderness provides an established network of partners to build upon for the CWMA, an established network for communication, has a good working relationship with the USFS, and a 501 (c)(3) trust established to allow for the hiring of a coordinator position.

Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership (NIIPP)

- 18 counties in northeast Illinois
- More than 60 potential partners in diverse fields



Northern Flatwoods, Lake County, IL



Japanese Stiltgrass



Flowering Rush



Mesic Forest, Lake County, IL



Garlic Mustard

Priorities

- Development
- Invasive Plant Education
- Early Detection and Rapid Response

Priorities

- Coordinate Control and Management
- Research on Invasive Plant Biology and Control



Tallgrass Prairie, Chicago Botanic Garden

Current Projects



Savanna, Lake County, IL



Oriental Bittersweet



Lyme grass

- Memorandum of Understanding
- Awarding small grants for on-the-ground control work
- Spring/Summer NIWP Training

Current Projects

- Outreach to new partners, transportation, utilities, railroads
- Partnering on aquatic invasive species outreach and management
- Assist with IL Invasive Species Awareness Month
- Annual Operating Plan



Silver Lake Conservation Area, McHenry County, IL



Teasel



Reed Canary Grass



Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area



Spotted Knapweed



Leafy Spurge

In the near future

- Tracking progress using measurable outcomes
- Website
- New Invaders Watch Program Enhancements

http://ewrr.inhs.uiuc.edu/NewInvaders/pdf/NewInvadersWatchProgramTraining2008.pdf - Windows Internet Explorer

http://ewrr.inhs.uiuc.edu/NewInvaders/pdf/NewInvadersWatchProgramTraining2008.pdf

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New Invaders Watch Program

A Volunteer-Based Program
to
Identify, Map and Control
New Exotic Invasive Species

www.NewInvaders.org



Done Unknown Zone

New Invaders Watch Program

23 Regional Early Detection Rapid Response Species


- Natural history
- Current locations
- Identifying characteristics
- Native look-alikes
- Habitat preferences
- Control methods



Vincetoxicum nigrum
(Black swallow-wort)

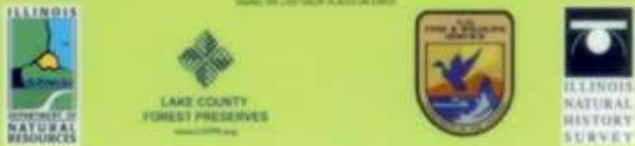
New Invaders Watch Program

New Invaders Watch List
An Early Detection and Rapid Response Network to Limit the Spread of New Invasive Exotic Species in Illinois



Preventing the spread of new, exotic invasive species is a critical step toward controlling a major threat to the health of our natural ecosystems.

The Nature Conservancy
MAKING THE GREAT PLACES GREENER



NIWP ID cards with photos and identification characteristics listed on back

New Invaders Watch Program

Report a New Invader

- Register for user ID and password
- Provide location of population by Google Earth or GPS coordinates
- Provide photo or voucher specimen

New Invaders Watch Program Data Collection Form

Use this form in the field and enter data electronically on our website, <http://www.NewInvaders.org> (or mail to address below). Please fill in both sides as completely as possible. A glossary is available at the website. Resulting plant vouchers must have copy of this form and be sent to: Dr. Rick Philippe, New Invaders Watch List, Illinois Natural History Survey, 1816 S Oak, Champaign, IL 61820. Send insect vouchers to: Dr. R. Edward DeWalt at the same address. Vouchers become the property of the INHS.

Observer / Collector Information Note: Contact information will not be distributed

Name _____ Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Species ID Information

Genus _____ Species _____ species/cultivar _____

Common Name _____ Date Observed (m/d/yyyy) ____/____/____

Web Entry Record Number _____ (After submission, a record number will appear with the name of the invader)

Species Location Information

Place Name/Town Name (as in 5 mi or 8 km NE Palos Park) _____

State _____ County _____

Principle Meridian: _____ Township, Range, Section(s), (Quarter/Quarter): T _____ N / S (circle) R _____ E / W (circle)

Sec. _____ 1/4 _____ 1/4 _____ Latitude/Longitude (decimal degrees: XX.XXXX) Lat. _____ Long. _____ W

Datum: NAD 1927 NAD 1983 Other _____

How did you determine your location? Topo map GIS GPS Plat map Google Earth Gazetteer Other _____

Walking directions to location / Best access _____

Location landmarks (roadways, buildings, lakes, etc.) _____

Land Ownership Information: (Do not enter private property without permission) Contact information will not be distributed.

Land Owner Type: Non-profit org. Village, City, Town County State Federal Private Unknown

Land Owner Name _____ Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Other Land Owner Name: _____

Public Land Name: _____

Other Land Name: _____

Status of Occurrence

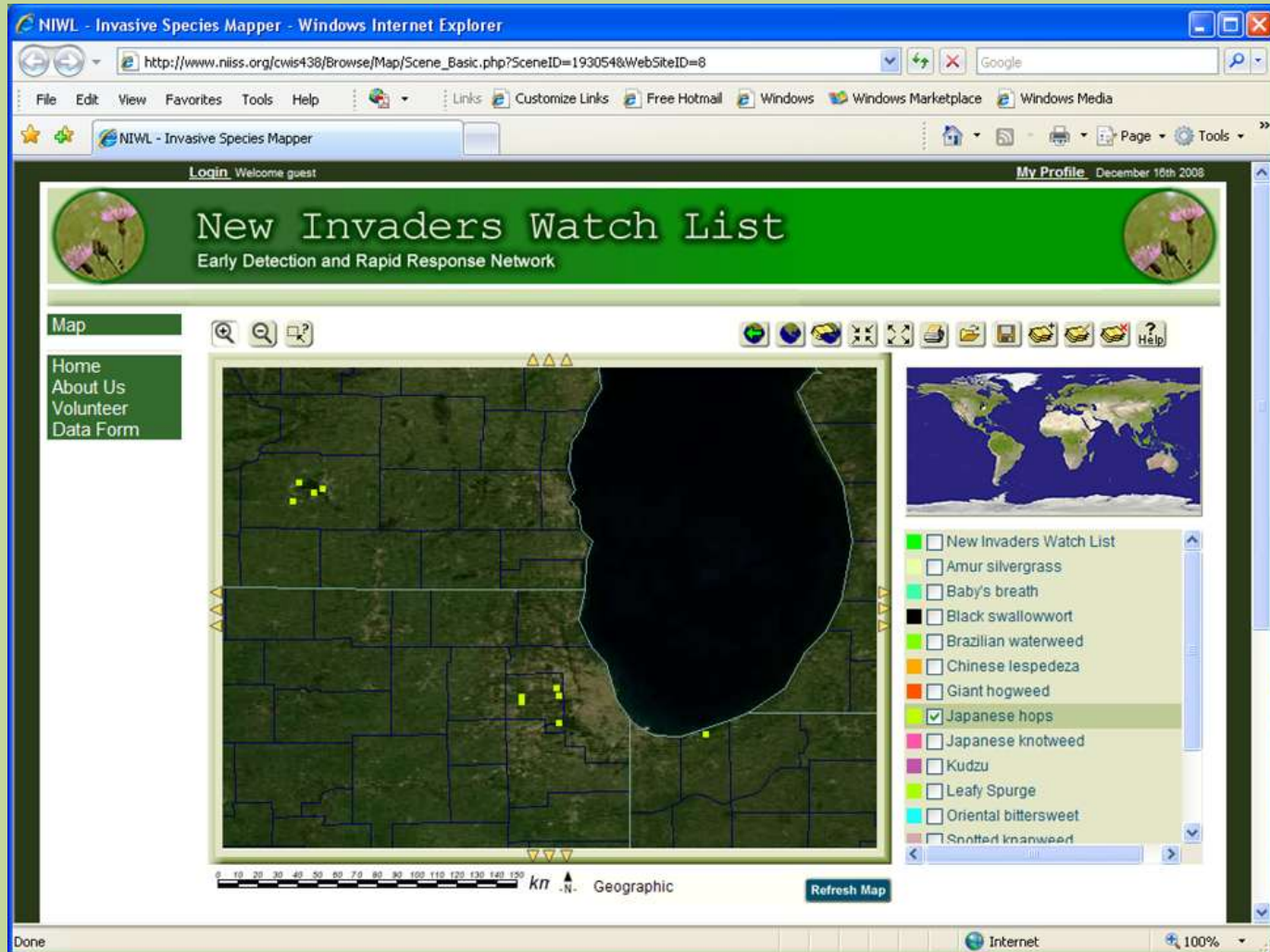
Area affected / Gross area of infestation: _____ ft² or _____ m²

How is the plant population distributed in the area affected? (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5

[1= few scattered plants, 2= several small clumps, 3= evenly scattered / numerous clumps, 4= large patch(es) 5= extensive or complete coverage]

Plant Growth stage(s): In flower In fruit Seedlings Seeds present Vegetative reprod. occurring Dormant/Dead

New Invaders Watch Program



NIWP Species Distribution Maps

New Invader Watch Program



The benefits of an EDRR program

Giant hogweed nipped in the bud

Two of the noxious plants discovered in Lake Forest.

By Frank Matichuk
frank@journal.com

LAKE FOREST — The discovery of two highly toxic invasive species in an 18-acre forest in Lake Forest will help local residents avoid the allergic reactions that often are caused by these plants.

The giant hogweed does not fit an alien plant with a few-foot-wide leaves, thick stalk and flower heads — either to Lewis and Clark's Lake or beyond.

The 1990 plant that showed up in a corner area of a Lake Forest yard appeared to have been planted by someone on the site.

It had been seen from the highway and identified as a noxious weed. It is the giant hogweed, a species that can cause severe allergic reactions to the skin, eyes and throat, said Dr. Robert J. Matichuk, a physician at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

The plant is a member of the same family as the giant hogweed, a species that can cause severe allergic reactions to the skin, eyes and throat, said Dr. Robert J. Matichuk, a physician at the University of Illinois at Chicago.



A five-foot tall giant hogweed plant found in Lake Forest contains the toxic chemical, pterocarpan, that will irritate and burn the skin, blisteration including the throat and eyes, and causes blisters along the skin. It is a member of the same family as the giant hogweed, a species that can cause severe allergic reactions to the skin, eyes and throat, said Dr. Robert J. Matichuk, a physician at the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Water drips from the stalk of a giant hogweed plant in Lake Forest.

TOP PICK

Several people have reported allergic reactions to the giant hogweed, a species that can cause severe allergic reactions to the skin, eyes and throat, said Dr. Robert J. Matichuk, a physician at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

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Lake in the Hills Prairie, McHenry County, IL