

NIIPP

NORTHEAST ILLINOIS INVASIVE PLANT PARTNERSHIP
A COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT AREA



(Clockwise from top left – child wearing butterfly mask at Monarch Festival; Clean Boats Crew Site Leader in action; Japanese knotweed control in Downers Grove; and Callery pear in bloom)

Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership 2013-2014

Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership Annual Report 2013-2014

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Executive Summary

During our fourth year the Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership (NIIPP) has focused on the continuance and expansion of existing programs and has made much progress towards its mission of minimizing adverse impacts of invasive plants on native habitats and biodiversity. This year we have worked to expand both our outreach and control work to new communities.

- **Grants** received through USDA-Forest Service, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and Audubon Toyota TogetherGreen Fellowship yielded more than \$81,000 in funding for NIIPP coordinator salary, travel, and projects for 2013-2014 that would assist partners with early detection, prevention, and control of plant invasions
- **Funds** received from the Whole Foods Dime-at-a-Time Program were used to purchase a new laptop for the NIIPP Coordinator and for travel and supplies for the New Invaders Watch Program; the NIIPP Coordinator was contracted by the Lake County Forest Preserve District to develop eight invasive plant homeowner fact sheets
- **39 workshops, presentations, exhibits, and training courses** reaching more than 2,362 people focused on introductory information about NIIPP, New Invaders Watch Program, Invasive Ornamental Plants, Regionally Established Invaders, Illinois Hydrilla Task Force, and Clean Boats Crew
- **23** newspaper articles, bulletins, and radio interviews promoted partner and public awareness of NIIPP activities
- **Clean Boats Crew aquatic invasive species outreach and education** reached 3,519 boaters, anglers, and recreational water users in Lake and Cook Counties in Illinois and Lake and Porter Counties in Indiana during 12 weekends
- **Collaborations** with 6 organizations and agencies and more than 20 private property owners to achieve coordinated control efforts of Japanese knotweed and Japanese stiltgrass in DuPage and Will Counties
- **Audubon Toyota TogetherGreen Fellowship** provided funds for translating the Midwest Invasive Plant Network “Landscape Alternatives for Invasive Plants” brochure, 8 homeowner fact sheets, and an invasive plant fact sheet into Spanish. The fellowship also funded invasive ornamental plant education and outreach in Waukegan, IL.
- **Co-ordination of the Illinois Hydrilla Task Force** which has completed the Early Detection/Rapid Response Plan for Illinois, a series of 12 fact sheets for aquatic invasive plants, and fielded 9 potential reports of Hydrilla in the last year.

Background and Mission

The Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership formally began in 2010 with the hiring of Cathy McGlynn, NIIPP Coordinator, and the signing of the partnership's memorandum of understanding. The partnership has expanded to over 53 organizations in four years and has accomplished a many outreach efforts, on the ground control projects, expansion of the regional early detection program, and increased partner communication about invasive plants in the region.

Our Mission

NIIPP intends to work toward the prevention and control of new plant invasions, control and manage current invasions, support informed management decisions, and raise public awareness concerning the threat posed by invasive plants. Our goal is to minimize the adverse impacts invasive plants have on our open lands and water in northeast Illinois, especially on native habitats and their native plants and wildlife.

Executive Committee:

Chair, Debbie Maurer, Lake County Forest Preserve District

Vice-Chair, Jeff Mengler, Hey & Associates

Steering Committee:

Trish Beckjord, Midwest Groundcovers, LLC

Dan Larkin, Chicago Botanic Garden

John Legge, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Management Program

Kathy Paap, Lake County Health Department

Delane Strohmeyer, USDA-Forest Service, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie

Coordinator:

Cathy McGlynn

Former Steering Committee Members

Vice-Chair, Eric Ulaszek, USFS Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie

Becky Collings, The Field Museum

Dan Spencer, Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Kurt Dreisilker, Morton Arboretum

Rebecca Grill, Park District of Highland Park

Memorandum of Understanding: 48 signatory partners and 4 non-signatory partners (Chicago DOE is no longer in operation)

Signatory Partners:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Algonquin Township Road District | 28. Lake County DOT |
| 2. Alliance for the Great Lakes | 29. Lake County FPD |
| 3. Atrium | 30. Land Conservancy of McHenry County |
| 4. Boone County Conservation District | 31. Lake Forest Openlands Association |
| 5. Campton Township | 32. McHenry County Conservation District |
| 6. Cantigny | 33. McHenry County SWCD |
| 7. Cardno Entrix | 34. MWRD of Greater Chicago |
| 8. Chicago Botanic Garden | 35. Midwest Groundcovers, LLC |
| 9. Chicago Park District | 36. Morton Arboretum |
| 10. Chicago Wilderness | 37. Openlands |
| 11. Fermilab Natural Areas | 38. Park District of Highland Park |
| 12. Forest Preserve District of Cook County | 39. Pizzo and Associates |
| 13. Forest Preserve District of DuPage County | 40. Tallgrass Restoration |
| 14. Forest Preserve District of Will County | 41. The Field Museum |
| 15. Fox River Ecosystem Partnership | 42. The Nature Conservancy -Illinois |
| 16. Frankfort Square Park District | 43. Upland Design |
| 17. Friends of the Forest Preserve | 44. USDA-FS Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie |
| 18. Friends of the Indian Boundary Prairies | 45. Village of Algonquin |
| 19. Hey & Associates | 46. Village of Glenview |
| 20. Illinois Department of Natural Resources | 47. Village of Lincolnshire |
| 21. Illinois Department of Transportation R 1 | 48. Winnebago County FPD |
| 22. Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant | |
| 23. Indian Creek Watershed Project | Non-Signatory Partners: |
| 24. Integrated Lakes Management | 1. Bradburne, Briller & Johnson Environmental Consultants and Engineers |
| 25. Joliet Park District | 2. GRAEF |
| 26. Kendall County FPD | 3. North Cook County SWCD |
| 27. Lake County Health Department | 4. Southeastern Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium |

Grants Archive

Funded:

1. USDA-FS GLRI additional funds 2013-2014: \$52,000
2. USFWS GLRI Grant to IDNR Aquatic Nuisance Species Program (percentage of funds used for collaboration for Clean Boats Crew and IL Hydrilla Task Force) 2012-2014: \$1,000,000
3. Audubon Toyota TogetherGreen Fellowship 2013-2014: \$10,000
4. North Central Integrated Pest Management Center 2013: \$5,000
5. Alliance for the Great Lakes (GLISA) 2014: \$3,000
6. Chicago Wilderness Des Plaines Sustainable Watershed Action Team Project 2014 - 2015: \$2,100
7. Sustain Our Great Lakes, Lake Michigan Watershed Early Detection Strike Team (subaward for NIIPP) 2014- 2016: \$64,000
8. Request for eight invasive plant homeowner fact sheets from LCFPD 2014: \$2,000

Pending grant proposals:

1. Illinois Coastal Management Program
2. Donnelley Foundation
3. Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

Not funded:

1. Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund large grant

Presentations, Trainings, and Workshops

1. October 3, 2013, Invasive Ornamental Symposium & Working Group, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL (85 attendees)
2. October 16, 2013, (presentation) "Clean Boats Crew," State of Lake Michigan, Sheboygen, WI (40 attendees)
3. October 20, 2013, (presentation) "Resources for Regional Plant Invasion Prevention and Early Detection/Rapid Response," Plants of Concern, FPDCC Thayer Woods (20 attendees)
4. November 5, 2013, (presentation), "Ecology in a converging world: the story of invasions," Benedictine University, Lisle, IL (25 attendees)
5. November 16, 2013, (presentation), "Aquatic Invasive Species: Prevention, Identification, and Reporting," Volunteer Lakes Monitoring Program (35 attendees)
6. November 20, 2013, (presentation) "Story about Invasive Species," Old Orchard Junior High School, Skokie, IL (80 attendees)
7. December 12, 2013, (presentation) "Update on some green industry outreach efforts in the Midwest," MIPN Symposium, North Central Weed Science Society, Columbus, OH (40 attendees)
8. January 10, 2014, (presentation) "The price of conventional beauty," National Association of Conservation Districts, Schiller Park, IL (24 attendees)
9. February 5- 7, 2014,(exhibit table) iLandscape Show, Schaumburg, IL (321 interactions)
10. March 4, 2014, (presentation) "Aquatic invasive species education and outreach in Illinois and Indiana," Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Conference, Lombard, IL (100 attendees)
11. March 4, 2014, (presentation) "Hydrilla EDRR in Illinois," Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Conference, Lombard, IL (100 attendees)
12. March 6, 2014, New Invaders Watch Program Training, Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL (18 attendees)
13. March 9, 2014, (exhibit table) Go Green Wilmette, Wilmette, IL (90 interactions)
14. March 11, 2014, (presentation) "Avoiding Invasive Ornamental Plants: How to Establish a Non-invasive Native Landscape," ConserveFS, St. Charles, IL (50 attendees)
15. March 13, 2014, (presentation) New Invaders and common invaders training, Green Corps Calumet-Chicago (40 attendees)



Clean Boats Crew site leader LaToya Gilbert talks with boaters at East Chicago Marina.

16. March 14 – 23, 2014, Chicago Flower & Garden Show, Chicago, IL (shared booth with IL-IN Sea Grant) (634 interactions)

17. March 17, 2014, (presentation) “Small changes with big impacts: How gardeners can help native plants and animals,” Chicago Flower & Garden Show (50 attendees)

18. March 28, 2014, presentations on New Invaders, common invaders, and invasive ornamental plants, Will County Master Naturalist Program (35 attendees)

19. April 3, 2014, (presentation) ‘Invasive ornamental plants: Preventing invasion by the next “buckthorn,”’ Chicago Wilderness Congress, UIC, Chicago, IL (80+ attendees)

20. April 3, 2014, (session organizer and moderator) “Addressing the Issue of Invasive Ornamental Plants,” Chicago Wilderness Congress, UIC, Chicago, IL (80+ attendees)

21. April 5, 2014, (presentation) Introduction to New Invaders Watch Program, Plants of Concern, Volo Bog Nature Center (24 attendees)

22. April 13, 2014, (presentation) Introduction to New Invaders Watch Program, Plants of Concern, Sand Ridge Nature Center (15 attendees)

23. April 16, 2014 (presentation) Downers Grove Homeowners meeting (10 attendees)

24. April 27, 2014, (presentation) Introduction to New Invaders Watch Program, Plants of Concern, Brewster Creek Lodge (30 attendees)

25. April 28, 2014, (presentation) “Small changes with big impacts: How gardeners can help native plants and animals,” Kishwaukee Garden Club (15 attendees)

26. May 5, 2014, Audubon Society, “Small changes with big impacts: How gardeners can help native plants and animals,” (60 attendees)

27. May 10, 2014 (presentation), Clean Boats Crew site leader training, Glencoe, IL (5 attendees)
28. May 14, 2014 (presentation), "A Story about Invasive Species," Most Blessed Trinity Academy, Waukegan, IL (40 attendees)
29. May 17, 2014 Garlic Mustard Pull, Roosevelt Park, Waukegan, IL (3 attendees)
30. May 20, 2014 (presentation) "Small changes with big impacts: How gardeners can help native plants and animals," Bowen Park, IL (0 attendees)
31. May 27, 2014 (presentation) "Small changes with big impacts: How gardeners can help native plants and animals," Bowen Park, IL (3 attendees)
32. May 31, 2014 (presentation) "Small changes with big impacts: How gardeners can help native plants and animals," Bowen Park, IL (3 attendees)
33. June 3, 2014 (presentation) New and Common Invaders Workshop, IDNR Summer Internship Program (15 attendees)
34. June 7, 2014 (exhibit table) World Environment Day, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL (110 interactions)
35. July 15, 2014 (presentation) "Small changes with big impacts: How gardeners can help native plants and animals," First Baptist Church, Waukegan, IL (7 attendees)
36. August 25, 2014 (presentation) "Small changes with big impacts: How gardeners can help native plants and animals," Palos Heights Garden Club, Palos Heights (45 attendees)
37. September 4, 2014 (presentation) "Small changes with big impacts: How gardeners can help native plants and animals," Christ Episcopal Church, Waukegan, IL (0 attendees)
38. September 7, 2014 (exhibit table and children's activity) Monarch Festival, Waukegan, IL (80 interactions)
39. September 20, 2014 (presentation) Invasive plant portion of guided nature walk, Lyons Woods, Waukegan, IL (7 Attendees)



Japanese knotweed

Media and General Outreach

1. McGlynn, C.A. Fall 2013. Aquatic Invasive Species Continue to Impact the Great Lakes and Inland Waterways. Lake Waves: Newsletter of the Illinois Lake Management Association. 27(1)
2. Lopat, R. November 18, 2013. Woe the ornamental pear tree? Invasive, but does it make the "invasive list"? Weedpatch Gazette
3. McGlynn, C. A. November 19, 2013. Illinois ban on invasive aquatic plants includes Hydrilla-aquatic superweed. [TribLocal](#) (Chicago Tribune)
4. McGlynn, C. A. November 21, 2013. Illinois-Indiana aquatic invasive species education and outreach program marks third anniversary. Patch.com
5. March 16, 2014 Radio interview about invasive ornamental plants, Mike Nowak Radio Show
6. McGlynn, C.A. March 26, 2014. Garden dreams that include native butterflies and birds. [TribLocal](#)
7. McGlynn, C.A. June 12, 2014. The next generation of environmental leaders takes on aquatic invasive species. [TribLocal](#)
8. McGlynn, C.A. June 23, 2014. Partnership in action: Homeowners from Downers Grove join forces to eradicate an unwelcome neighbor. [TribLocal](#)
9. Norris, K. and G. Tselepis. August 1, 2014. Veteran Clean Boats Crew site leaders want you to know why they do what they do! [TribLocal](#)
10. McGlynn, C.A. August 10, 2014. Illinois aquatic invasive species education and outreach program marks the end of its 4th season. [TribLocal](#)
11. McGlynn, C.A. October 3, 2014. Aquatic invasive species education and outreach program marks the end of its 4th season. [Northwest Indiana Times](#)
12. Twelve issues of the monthly NIIPP Bulletin



Children color butterfly masks at Monarch Festival in Waukegan

Education and Outreach Materials Distributed

Garden Clubs of Illinois Convention, Northbrook, IL

Conservation Plainfield

Prairie Fest, Campton Township

Wild Ones, Native Garden Tour

Clean Boats Crew

NIIPP Coordinator gave a presentation about aquatic invasive species to the Master Naturalists of Will County.

Numbers of people with which our site leaders interacted during the 2014 season- Lake County, IL = 2,040; Cook County, IL = 852; and Lake and Porter Counties, IN = 627. Total = 3,519

Illinois Hydrilla Task Force

Website: www.niipp.net/hydrilla

Email: HydrillaHunt@niipp.net

Education and outreach materials will continue to be distributed throughout the state. The Early Detection Rapid Response Plan for Illinois and 12 aquatic invasive plant fact sheets will be available on the Hydrilla hunt website soon. So far 6 organizations and agencies have agreed to sign on to the Rapid Response Team Memorandum of Understanding.

New Invaders Watch Program

This summer NIIPP worked with Will County FPD to control Japanese stiltgrass on several private properties in Wilmington, IL. This infestation was first identified in 2011. In addition, NIIPP worked with DuPage County FPD, and Downers Grove Park District, and the Village of Downers Grove to control Japanese knotweed on 18 private properties in Downers Grove. This infestation has been present for several decades. This past year two new invasive plants were reported in our region: mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*) and Castor-aralia (*Kalopanax pictus*). In addition, monitors filed 224 reports with New Invaders Watch Program and EDDMapS: 3 brown marmorated stink bug (*Halyomorpha halys*), 1 Brazilian elodea (*Egeria densa*), 52 Asian bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), 9 spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe* L. ssp. *micranthos*), 8 fig buttercup/lesser celandine (*Ranunculus ficaria*), 1 wild chervil (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), 3 Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*/*Polygonum cuspidatum*), 1 leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*), 35 Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), 12 winged burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*), 96 Lyme grass (*Leymus arenarius*), 2 flowering rush (*Butomus umbellatus*), and 1 Chinese lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*). New EDDMapS reporting in our region also included 515 reports of teasel (*Dipsacus* spp.).



Integrated Lakes Management heading toward a Japanese knotweed infestation in Downers Grove

Professional Development

October 28 – November 1, 2013, Audubon Toyota TogetherGreen Fellowship Leadership Institute, Dayton, OH

December 13, 2013, Network for Nature

September 9 – 12, 2014, Audubon Toyota TogetherGreen Fellowship Follow-up Retreat, Washington, D.C.

Collaborations

- NIIPP is working with DuPage County Forest Preserve District, Downers Grove Park District, the Village of Downers Grove, Downers Grove Sanitary District, and homeowners to delineate and control a Japanese knotweed and Japanese stiltgrass population along St. Joseph's Creek
- NIIPP collaborates with Chicago Botanic Garden and Lake County Health Department to coordinate the IL Hydrilla Task Force
- NIIPP collaborates with Will County FPD to control Japanese stiltgrass in Wilmington, IL

Community Service

NIIPP Coordinator serves on Chicago Botanic Garden Invasive Plants Committee that discusses which species will be removed from collections or put on a watch list at the Chicago Botanic Garden

NIIPP Coordinator serves on the Illinois Invasive Plant Species Council which is currently involved in assessing the invasion risk of particular species and proposing select plants for regulation

NIIPP Coordinator serves on Illinois Invasive Species Awareness Month (ISAM) Planning Committee which promotes ISAM throughout the region via publications, presentations, and reviews nominations for annual ISAM awards.

NIIPP Coordinator serves on the MIPN Invasive Ornamental Plants in Trade Working Group and the State Pest Analysis of Risk Committee

NIIPP Coordinator serves on the Chicago Regional Trees Initiative – Tree Risk Assessment Committee

Fiscal Summary 2013-14

Year	Source	Amount	Operating Expenses	Projects funded
2013	IL-IN Sea Grant	\$15,525	25%	Clean Boats Crew
2013	Donnelley Foundation	\$5,502	9%	Green industry outreach
2013	IDNR	\$45,000	12.5%	Illinois Hydrilla EDRR Plan
2013	USDA-Forest Service (GLRI)	\$26,000	44%	New Invaders, etc.
2013	NCIPM	\$3,550	6.4%	Invasive Ornamental Plant Workshop
2013	Lake County FPD	\$2,000	3.5%	Homeowner fact sheets
2014	IDNR	\$35,000	12.5%	Illinois Hydrilla EDRR Plan
2014	USDA-Forest Service (Midewin)	\$23,253	30.7%	New Invaders Watch Program, etc.
2014	USDA-Forest Service (GLRI)	\$28,000	23%	New Invader targeted control
2014	Boeing Global Citizenship (CW)	\$1,295	2.5%	Community outreach
2014	Toyota TogetherGreen Fellowship	\$10,000	9%	Bilingual outreach and education
2014	IL-IN Sea Grant	\$10,182	16.4%	Clean Boats Crew
2014	GLISA (Alliance for the Great Lakes)	\$3,000	2.1%	Climate change adaptation plan

Future Projects 2015

- Continuation of Clean Boats Crew aquatic invasive species education and outreach in Lake and Cook Counties in Illinois and Lake, LaPorte, and Porter Counties in Indiana.
- Continuation of invasive ornamental plant education and outreach to the Hispanic community in Waukegan and beyond. Continued efforts to reach garden clubs, nurseries, garden centers, and landscapers.
- Green Infrastructure planning and implementation in the Des Plaines River Corridor (Chicago Wilderness): NIIPP coordinator participates in two meetings with community leaders and decision-makers to provide invasive species identification training and assistance with invasive plant management and control
- iLandscape tradeshow table shared with Illinois- Indiana Sea Grant
- NIIPP will co-manage the project involving the Lake Michigan Watershed Early Detection Strike Team (Sustain Our Great Lakes) that will implement control of 18 early detection and high priority invasive plants species within 400 populations across 5,400 acres.
- NIIPP will provide New Invaders Watch Program training to at least 10 townships, park districts, forest preserve districts, and organizations in the Lake Michigan Watershed
- NIIPP will continue to promote and support efforts to survey and map invasive plant infestations for prioritization of limited resources for control
- NIIPP will generate and publish additional homeowner fact sheets
- NIIPP Steering Committee subcommittee to compile working list of known and potentially invasive ornamental plants
- Reaching out to regional government representatives about invasive plants