Plants Out of Place

PO Box 5274

Madison, WI 53705-0274

http://www.ipaw.org

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Vice President's Notes:
Summer Observations

The other day a friend and I hit the road to see what was happening around our little piece of northeast Wisconsin late in July. I'm conveniently located near multiple state Wildlife areas.

The compass plants were stunning, the purple and yellow coneflowers vibrant, the bee balm was buzzing. I saw spring chewed leaves on milkweeds. This must be one of the best years for monarchs we've had in a while. They were everywhere. We saw lots of viceroys, sulfurs, wood nymphs and some black and tiger swallowtails, too.

Passing through an area where the dozens of bobolinks were raucous in June, this day they were silent. The quiet of the bobolinks allowed us to hear the dicsissels and Henslow sparrows, though nothing could drown out the sounds of that one little wren!

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"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks."

John Muir, Naturalist

Vice President's Notes Continued

We did see bobolinks, though. We spied an entire family of them moving through the grasses, silently. Other family units presented themselves. At a nearby farm pond, the shovelers which I hoped were nesting in June, had, and the family was out for a swim on the pond. Along the drier edges was a family of killdeer. Little killdeer have to be among the most adorable things ever.

Crossing east into Manitowoc County, we encountered a family of deer including two small spotted fawns. Gee, can those little ones bounce and boing going to hide from us!

Sandhill cranes were everywhere. Each river we drove by held great blue herons and two river crossings had hunting kingfishers. We were surprised by the numbers of meadow larks, but not surprised by our regular ospreys and bald eagle.

Though never more than 20 miles from home, we returned in a few hours. I looked to my own backyard as a family of wood ducks was cruising across my pond.

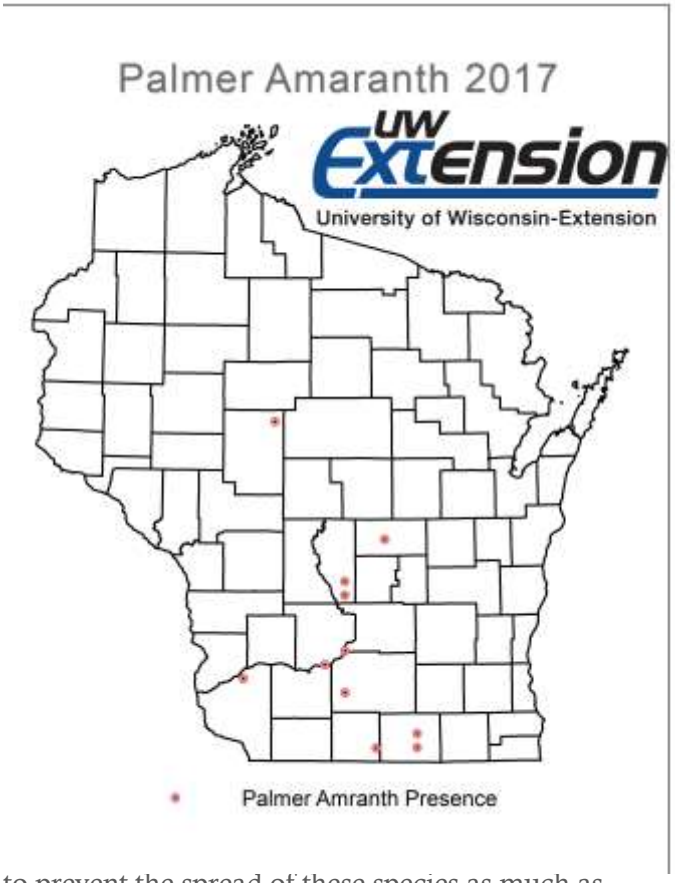
What a day filled with glorious sights, sounds and wonderful critters! It was a genuine reminder of why I care so very much about preventing the spread of invasive plants.

Diane Schauer
IPAW Vice President

Palmer Amaranth & Waterhemp – Invasive Species Infesting Farms in Wisconsin

By: Mark Renz, UW-Madison Associate Professor and Extension Specialist
and Sam Marquardt, UW Madison Assistant Outreach Specialist

Have you ever heard of pigweeds? They are in the genus *Amaranthus*, and species have been commonly found throughout Wisconsin for over a century. Some of these species have historically been used as grain crops, however most amaranths (called pigweeds) are considered annual weeds that compete against plants grown for agronomic or horticultural purposes.



Pigweeds common to the Midwest historically include red root pigweed, smooth pigweed, and waterhemp. While these have been present for over a century, distribution and dominance of these species has been changing, especially over the past two decades. Observations have shown that waterhemp and Palmer amaranth are two species that are increasing their dominance in the Midwest. While waterhemp species have long been present throughout the Midwest, they were considered common only near the Mississippi River in Wisconsin. Surveys of agronomic fields over the past five years have shown that now they are found in 5% of fields statewide. In contrast, Palmer amaranth is just now gaining a foothold in Midwestern states, and currently only a handful of populations exist in Wisconsin.

Both of these species are especially worrisome and problematic because they can develop resistance to common herbicides used in agricultural production. Resistance has been shown to cause economic hardships on farmers and agronomists due to decreased yields from the weed or increased management costs. While resistance is occurring in Wisconsin, its rate of development is much slower than other states nearby. Our goal is to prevent the spread of these species as much as possible. While waterhemp is already widespread, Palmer amaranth is just now beginning to be seen on the landscape (see maps). We are asking for assistance on identifying new populations. Therefore, we are asking citizens to report pigweeds to us if they believe they may be waterhemp or Palmer amaranth.

Detailed instructions on how to differentiate between the pigweeds can be found at https://fyi.uwex.edu/wifdn/report-a-pigweed/ but in brief:

1. Identify the plant as a species in the pigweed family.
2. Look on stems for hairs. If hairs are absent, it is likely waterhemp, Palmer amaranth, or spiny amaranth.
3. Look for spines on the stem where the leaf attaches to the stem. If spines are present it is spiny amaranth.

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Palmer Amaranth & Waterhemp Continued

4. Look at mature leaves. If the petiole is longer than the leaf blade it is likely Palmer amaranth.

If you find a pigweed that you think may be Palmer amaranth or waterhemp, please report it! Reports can be submitted via the GLEDN smartphone app or by emailing information to reportapigweed@gmail.com.

When submitting a report via email, please include the following:

1. *Location of the pigweed*: GPS coordinates or an address/road intersection
2. *The habitat where the pigweed is growing*: agricultural field (indicate what type of field, e.g. corn, soybean, etc.), home garden, roadside, or other (please describe).
3. *Indicate whether the plant may be herbicide resistant,* and if so, what herbicide has been applied.
4. *Identifying pictures of the pigweed*, including a picture of the whole plant, a picture of the plant stem, and a picture of the leaf and petiole (leaf stem) also are helpful to verify populations. Check the website if you need help distinguishing identifiable features present on these pigweeds.

It is our hope that this information, in combination with other efforts to identify and report problem pigweeds, will assist in early detection of new populations in Wisconsin and encourage management before they spread. This information will also help us to better understand what factors are driving spread in pigweed populations. Check back on the WI First Detector Network website periodically to find more information regarding the flowering stages of these pigweeds, along with an informational video about why we need to care about herbicide resistance in these pigweeds.

WISTIPP: A New Tool to View Shared Invasive Terrestrial Plant Observations in Wisconsin

By: Mark Renz and Niels Jorgensen
Associate Professor and Doctoral Candidate, University of Wisconsin-Madison

The majority of reported terrestrial invasive plant data in the nation has been compiled and shared in a publically available database called the Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System (EDDMapS). This repository was developed for all invasive species records within the United States and is a useful source to see national distribution of invasive species. While EDDMapS is a useful resource, it has limitations when trying to view multiple species within a state. To address this, we developed the Wisconsin Shared Terrestrial Invasive Plant Presence (WISTIPP) Viewer, a new online resource to assist in viewing and sharing **terrestrial invasive plant** observations in Wisconsin. Click here to access the WISTIPP Viewer page.

What is the goal of WISTIPP Viewer? WISTIPP Viewer is meant to provide users an easy-to-access tool that displays and shares **terrestrial invasive plant occurrences** in Wisconsin. Our hope is that this will facilitate more data sharing, improving knowledge of invasive species spread and empowering control efforts throughout Wisconsin.

What information does WISTIPP Viewer contain? WISTIPP Viewer displays occurrences from the EDDMapS

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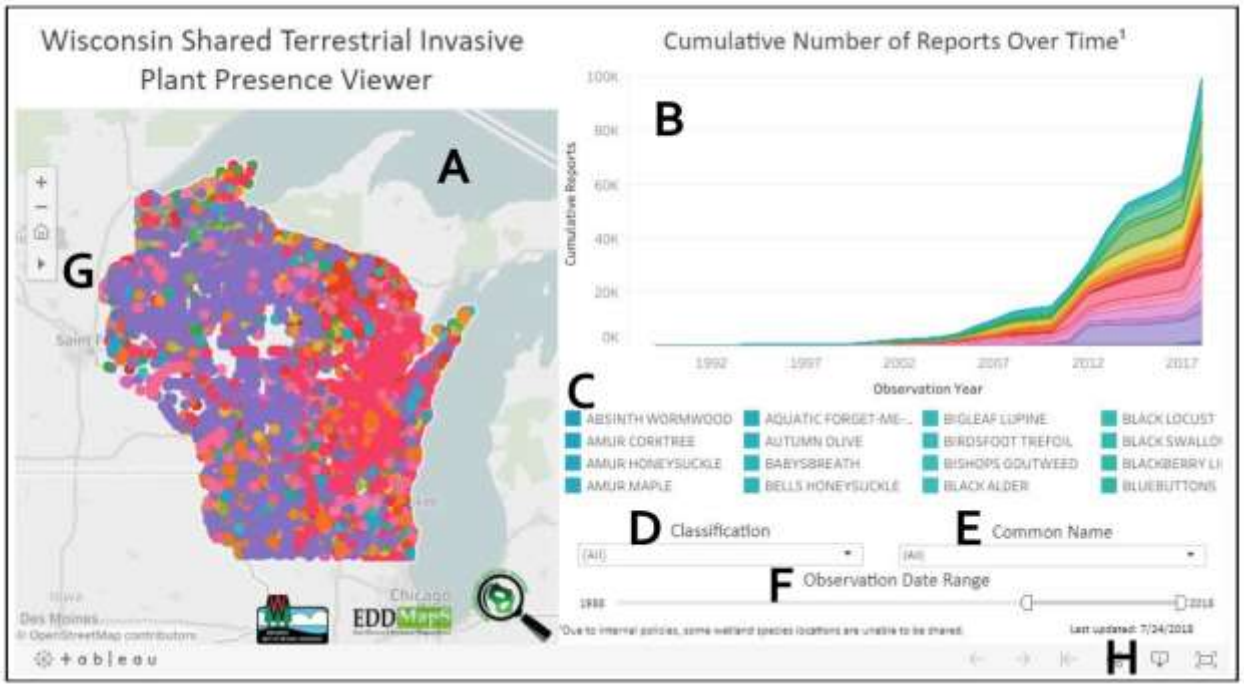
WISTIPP Continued

database for terrestrial invasive plant records in Wisconsin. *It currently does not cover aquatic species, animals, insects or diseases*. As many plants are listed as invasive, we shortened the list to species with the following Wisconsin DNR classifications:

- Prohibited
- Restricted
- Caution/Non-Restricted.

While reports in EDDMapS often contain detailed information, in WISTIPP Viewer, records only display common and scientific species name, date reported, who reported it, and where it was reported. If a record has additional information available through EDDMapS, the record can be accessed through their website or advanced query tool (click here).

How does WISTIPP Viewer work? The WISTIPP Viewer default view is shown in the image below. The WISTIPP Viewer map (**A**) and graph (**B**) display the invasive plant records selected using the options from the Classification (**D**) and Common Name (**E**) dropdown menus and the Observation Date Range slider (**F**). The legend (**C**) displays the selected species (scroll to the right to view hidden portions of the legend).



To customize your view:

1. First, use the Classification and Common Name dropdown menus (**D** & **E**) in the lower right corner of the screen to select the species classification (based on WI DNR NR40) and/or individual species of interest. The default setting is "All" species.
2. Click "Apply" at the bottom of the dropdown menu to save your options. The map and graph will then automatically update. Alternatively, click on your species of interest in the legend pane (**C**), and the map and graph will update.

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WISTIPP Continued

3. Once the classification(s) and species name(s) are selected, adjust the Observation Date Range slider (**F**) at the bottom right to view the species over the desired timeframe. Then you are ready to dig into the results!

Tips for in-depth exploration and visualization:

- The map is interactive, so you can zoom in or out, and you can view more information about individual reports by hovering over or clicking the points.
- Advanced tools allow you to define a specific area to view using a rectangle, circle, or lasso to select your area of interest. This is very helpful if you wish to download specific data/occurrences for the area you work. Find the advanced tools by clicking on the arrow in the map tools (**G**).
- Data can be downloaded and used by anyone. Select the download button (**H**) in the lower-right hand corner, and results will be provided in CSV format. You can download all the data within this visualization or just a subset from the user-defined area selected.
- Any visualization you create can be exported in multiple formats (e.g. jpg, pdf) using the download button (**H**).

We encourage you to explore this tool! Our hope is that it will motivate groups to:

1. Enhance mapping efforts
2. Share information that currently is not shared
3. increase activities that will prevent the spread and even reduce the prevalence of invasive plants in Wisconsin

How can you help improve WISTIPP Viewer? We plan on updating this resource biweekly with new data from EDDMapS, so if you want to share information, please make sure you use a method that will get information into EDDMapS. The best ways to do this are:

1. Using the Great Lakes Early Detection Network (GLEDN) application
2. Reporting directly to the EDDMapS website
3. Contact Wisconsin First Detector Network and provide the location
4. Report to Wisconsin DNR Invasive Species Team.

While several organizations collect data and share information with EDDMapS, delays in data sharing often exist and can range from months to years. Other groups have restrictions that prevent the sharing of some information until it meets a specific validation process. To minimize delays, we recommend using the GLEDN application or reporting directly to the EDDMapS website. These platforms automatically add the observation to the database, and once they are verified, they will be visible in EDDMapS and subsequently the WISTIPP Viewer. If you work with another group and are unsure of their level of data sharing, we recommend asking the groups or us directly.

We hope you enjoy this tool, and don't hesitate to ask questions. Happy exploring and reporting!

Don't forget to Like IPAW on Facebook!

Playing, Cleaning and Going in Manitowoc!

By: Jennifer Klein, Land Management Coordinator, Woodland Dunes Nature Center

"These kids are truly modeling how to have fun in nature and how to protect it at the same time," said Jennifer Klein, land management coordinator for Woodland Dunes Nature Center.

One way they're avoiding screen time and getting out there is by rehabilitating and beautifying the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) in Manitowoc. According to Klein, the CDF is an active dredge spoil disposal site for the harbor, but these partners, including the school kids, are aiming for this place to be known as something much more "cool" and recreational.

After the removal of various invasive plants and a non-productive manicured lawn, fifty 2rd and 5th graders from Madison Elementary School in Manitowoc got their hands dirty, dug in, and planted trees and shrubs on Arbor Day 2017. They also helped create an intentional, invasive-free walking path for future users to enjoy while bird watching, hiking, jogging or just relaxing in the beauty of the natural area. Starting nature care at this early age will help these kids develop a life-long environmental ethic that will encourage them to get out there and play more often, and also to preserve their outdoor playground.

Dr. Charles Sontag, a supervisor of the project, has 50 years of daily bird observations at the CDF and has recorded more than 300 bird species. This encouraged the kids and partners to effectively enhance this habitat so they, too, can find a place in the outdoors to enjoy for 50 years.

Woodland Dunes secured funding from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and created partnerships with the Lakeshore Invasive Species Management Area (LISMA), the City of Manitowoc, and Stantec Consulting, Inc.

What was once a weedy dumping ground has been converted to a beautiful park-like setting. Woodland Dunes welcomes old and new friends to come experience this wonderful change, and to see how people working together under the philosophy of PlayCleanGo make a difference for nature.

The 2018 Invader Crusader Winners Are…

Katelin Anderson, information and education coordinator/water quality specialist with Polk County Land & Water Resources was honored for her work on aquatic invasive species across county and state lines.

Tim Gerber, a biology professor at UW-La Crosse, was awarded for his teaching of invasive plants, research and control work at Lulu Lake State Natural Area.

Brad Herrick, ecologist and research program manager at the UW-Madison Arboretum, has led groundbreaking research work on the newly discovered Asian jumping worms at the arboretum.

Johnson's Nursery was recognized for its strong push to grow and promote more native species, to eliminate species and cultivars known to be invasive, and for helping develop the state's invasive species law, as well as hosting an annual conference on invasive and native plants.

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2018 Invader Crusaders Continued

Ruth Marshall, Weed Commissioner of the Village of Nashotah, was recognized for work including leading SEWISC's Invasive Species Eradication project over the 10 years, as well as multiple control projects in Nashotah.

Milly Thissen, a Trego, Wisconsin volunteer, was honored for her work to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species in the Town of Chicog and surrounding areas.

Jim Reinartz, a UW-Milwaukee biology professor and director of the UWM Cedarburg Field Station, was honored for work including founding IPAW and serving as Science Advisor on the Governor's Council on Invasive Species.

Jill Hapner was recognized for work including serving as executive director of SEWISC and managing several successful projects to control invasive plants such as giant hogweed and garlic mustard.

Friends of Festge was recognized for its members' commitment to restoring, maintaining, and enhancing the diversity of the prairies, woodlands, streams and wetlands of Festge County Park and Salmo Pond in Dane County.

Ken Raffa, Ecologist UW-Madison was honored for his years of assisting and providing scientific guidance to the WI Invasive Species Council and to WDNR.

Brad Steckart and the Washington and Waukesha County Aquatic Invasive Species Teams created this year's winner of the Video Challenge. Their video, Boatbusters can be viewed here.

IPAW Field Days

By: Anne Pearce, University of Wisconsin-Madison

IPAW's first field day of 2018 took place in Barron on May 23rd. Barron County's Soil and Water Conservation Department staff graciously hosted our group, and the event was co-hosted by St. Croix-Red Cedar CWMA, Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership, and Upper Chippewa CWMA. Attendees included county conservation staff from Barron, Taylor, Rusk, Price, Dunn, and Sawyer counties, as well as members of the Barron County Woodland Owners Association, Master Gardeners, and other interested landowners.

The morning was spent learning about identifying invasive plants of the area, mapping and monitoring with the Great Lakes Early Detection Network app, and tools and techniques for managing invasive plants. In the afternoon, the group visited several sites around Barron to learn more about the plants covered in the morning session. We compared common and glossy buckthorn growing side-by-side, saw escaped ornamentals like bishop's goutweed and Amur maple, and visited a roadside full of wild chervil. Attendees enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about invasive plants in the field and to discuss their invasive plant challenges with each other and the presenters.

Join us at one of our upcoming field days: August 22nd at the UW-Madison Arboretum or September 19th at the Town of Holland Hall in Cedar Grove. Stay tuned for additional field days, and we hope you can join us at an event near you!

Invasive Species Management Sign – Salutes Individual Efforts

By: Jill Hapner, SEWISC

Even the smallest of efforts can make a big difference toward reducing the impact of invasive species. Urban landowners as well as those who own and manage larger acreages can now encourage good stewardship and backyard conservation practices by posting these signs.

Whether you have rural acreage, or a suburban yard, or a city lot, you can help protect the environment by controlling invasive species and promoting the stewardship practice to others.

The high-quality 9x12 inch aluminum signs are available for only $16.99 each or two for $29.99 (price includes shipping and handling). Want to order more than two, contact us at: info@sewisc.org for a prince quote.

See the SEWISC Order Form to place your order. Supplies are limited!

IPAW Board Members:

Christa Schaefer, IPAW President, Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Diane Schauer, IPAW Vice President, Calumet County

Mark Renz, IPAW Treasurer, UW - Madison, Associate Professor & Extension Specialist

John Lunz, IPAW Secretary, The Park People – Weed-Out Program, The Wild Ones, Preserve Our Parks

Mic Armstrong, Armstrong Landscaping

Greg Bunker, Stockbridge-Munsee Community

Jeremy Chiamulera, Compass Land Consultants, Inc.

Heidi Kennedy, SEH, Natural Resources Scientist

Anne Pearce, Wisconsin First Detector Network Coordinator

Patricia Trochlell, Retired, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Newsletter Information:

Plants Out of Place is a periodic newsletter distributed to Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin members.

Send comments, suggestions, and articles that you think may be of interest to IPAW at info@ipaw.org

You can support IPAW each and every time you shop at AmazonSmile!

IPAW's Mission:

"To promote better stewardship of the natural resources of Wisconsin by advancing the understanding of invasive plants, preventing their introduction, and encouraging the control of their spread."