

Monroe County Invasive Species Working Group (MCISWG) Core Meeting

Invited Attendees: Bob Micheel (LCD), Bryce Richardson (LCD), MCLCC; Michelle Komiskey, Mic Armstrong USDA NRCS; Joey Esterline, landowner, Horticulturist; Brad Gilbertson City of Sparta; Ben Johnson SWWMA (Kickapoo), Resident/Volunteer; Christine Walroth, and briefly, Megan Mickelson, DNR Foresters; Matt Modjeski DNR Conservation Officer; Chad Zeigler MC Forester; Mark Renz UW. Extension weed science and MIPN; Tim Wilder, Fort Mc Coy; Jim Raiten Center for Environmental Management Colorado State University (Fort McCoy);

Invited, not present: Dave Texley Fort McCoy Pest management;MCHW; DOT.....; Bill Halfman UW-Extension; Dave Ohnstad, Co Hwy Dept.; Joel Kuehnhold, Golden Sands RC&D; & Kirk Arity, Tomah

Also attending: Veronica Blount NRCS

Notes:

- Introduction (Micheel)
- History (Richardson)
Sept 99- 2007.
Invasive plant of moment-Purple Loosestrife-High school propagated, Mello+ Bryce delivered
School workshops
Fliers developed and disseminated
- CISMA s explained- Mark Renz. Referred to a document on the MIPN webpage but we will try to get a summarized version by the next meeting.
- Structure of MCISWG (Micheel) Need a “facilitator”, leader. Meetings Quarterly, 1-3pm
- Around the room “favorite” Invasive
Aquatics-Eurasian Milfoil, any invasive species attached to boats
Japanese Knotweed
Barberry
Buckthorn
Prickly Ash (note from scribe this is not generally listed as an invasive- Aggressive Native)
Wild Parsnip
St John’s Wort
Purple loosestrife
Sweet Clover
Eurasian Honeysuckle (Lonicera)
Emerald Ash Bore
Black Locust
Oriental bittersweet
Autumn Olive
Phragmites
- Also mentioned in a brief discussion after the NR40 word came up:
Burning Bush- One found on F. McCoy property. Most cultivars ruled exempt from rule. Species *Euonymus alatus* and the Cultivar *Nordine* Restricted.

Palmer Amarynth, I don't believe has been assessed by the NR40 team, but is certainly invasive in the mid-west and should be treated like a weed to watch in WI

Day Lilly –Probably Tawny Daylily *Hemerocallis fulva* Non-regulated-Caution category.

Teasel- Warden Modjeski had a certain technician incinerate a teasel head found on his desk! It is mapped on 1-90 (Little La Crosse River), Hwy 27 and Hwy X.

- How to prioritize efforts? (Wilder) explained how with his budget cuts he prioritized by landscape. Highest priority would be the better (pristine) lands. Lower priority land was probably infested to the degree that money spent there wouldn't do much to dent the problem.

Education

Quarries-can spread invasive in gravel, could be addressed with (fees)

Volunteer efforts-MISWG could be an "Umbrella" for projects

Articles in local media

Resource for landowners and users of public lands; brief discussion on site visits for landowners by professionals and/or volunteers; connect with townships/DOT (mowing schedules, provide resources)

Mapping-(Renz) introduced Great Lakes Early Detection Network and EDDmaps (possible future demo by Mark's staff)

Field Days- IPAW (The Invasive Plant Association of Wisconsin) can help fund a field day. Mark Renz staff will facilitate workshops on ID and management of Invasive Species

Many resources/brochures/videos/etc. are already created and accessed via the weed science website.

Webpage (and Facebook page) Monroe County Land Conservation will help develop

Newspaper Articles (Esterline) will write periodic articles with info from MCISWG to create local connection

Poster-similar to the "Wanted Japanese Hops" one by our front door

Contest-prizes for finders of species on our "watch list"

Biological controls coordination

- Representation needs:

Highway Department & Township Representation

State DOT

Extension & USFW

- Side meetings

Prior to the MISWG meeting a few of the group met for a more targeted brainstorming session about a specific site. Today was European Buckthorn on City of Sparta property around Amundson Park. Some great ideas came out and the land steward is now better able to craft a plan that will help achieve the intended goals.

Next side meeting Amur Maple (*Acer ginnala*) on the Bike trail by Speeds Bicycle shop (11 am the day of the next MISWG (steering group) meet.

- Action Items:

Example of MOU, Invite CISMA from another area

Newspaper Article

Possible Project Collaborations US Silica, Xcel energy

Identify the target groups/audience, e.g. Schools, public land users, hunting groups,

Facilitator/Leader/Chair. Dave Texley proposed, will ask if OK with his employer.

Take the word Plant out of MCISPWG

- Next meeting of Core group-Invited only: Thursday June 22 (1-3pm), Monroe County Ag Service Center, 820 Industrial Drive, Sparta.
- Pre meeting (Amur maple) for anyone interested- meet by Speeds Bike shop 11a.m.

Scribe Notes: 3/23/17 (M. Armstrong)