

ALERT!

Don't Let Invasive Plants Take Over **Door County!**

Help protect the natural treasures that make Door County beautiful...



Europe Lake, an example of Door County's beauty

What is a Non-Native **Invasive Plant?**

Non-native simply means that the plant didn't grow here naturally. In other words, it is exotic, or imported to this area from another state or country. Invasive indicates that the plant is especially good at competing with native vegetation and could even eliminate some native species. These plants have spread at an alarming rate because, unlike native plants, there are not native insects, fungi or diseases to control their growth and spread. The following pictures highlight a few of the species that are particularly troublesome in our area.

Common Buckthorn



Common buckthorn is a European shrub that was sometimes mistakenly planted for wildlife food, but is now seriously choking many Door County natural areas.

Phragmites



Non-native phragmites is a very aggressive tall grass that thrives in wet areas including open wetlands, shorelines, shallow water and partially shaded wet woodlands. It can severely impact aquatic habitats.

Garlic Mustard



Garlic mustard is a noxious invasive weed that can eliminate native forest wildflowers and stunt tree seedlings. Its ability to poison the soil makes it a serious threat to the future of many Door County forests.

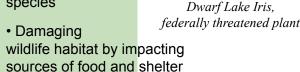


Purple loosestrife is a non-native invasive plant that impacts wetlands and shoreline areas and can completely eliminate native vegetation.

Why Care?

It is important to control invasive plants because these plants are:

- Destroying unique natural communities
- Eliminating endangered and threatened species



 Negatively affecting the aesthetic qualities and natural beauty of the county

Door County has over 250 miles of coastline that harbor some of the most unique natural areas and plant and animal communities in Wisconsin. Studies of state endangered and threatened species have shown that Door County has a higher number of rare species per square mile than any other location in the state. Maintaining and protecting critical habitat areas is a necessity for these species.

Establishment of invasive plants within natural habitats threatens the rare species currently found here. These areas, once lost, will be virtually irreplaceable.

County eam

What is it? The Door County **Invasive Species** Team (DCIST) works to identify, monitor and control non-native aggressive plants in Door County through public assistance, coordination of countywide efforts, and provision of informational and educational resources.

Who are we?

DCIST is a group of natural resource professionals and interested citizens that are concerned with preserving Door County's native environment. To contact DCIST. call the DCIST Message Line at 920-746-5955



DCIST aids landowners with hands-on training to identify and control invasive species. Pictured here, a resident bundles phragmites during a work party held to demonstrate proper control techniques.

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WISCONSIN COASTAL
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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Please visit the **DCIST** website at

http://map.co.door.wi.us/swcd/invasive/index.htm

for more information and an online invasive species report form.

Please fill out the form below if you have observed an invasive plant that you think may be a potential problem. 1) Provide as much information as possible, 2) cut the form along the dotted line, 3) fold it in half and seal it, 4) affix proper postage and 5) mail the form to the Door County Soil and Water Conservation Department at 421 Nebraska Street, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235. Thanks for your help!

General Information	Please Print
Please provide contact information so that we follow-up questions regarding your invasive p	•
Name	Date Observed
Mailing Address	
Email	Check this box if
Daytime Phone	you are interested in becoming a volunteer
Evening Phone	
Invasive Plant Information	
Where is the invasive plant located? (Including a drawing, legal description, or GPS coordinates is not necessary, but would be helpful)	What invasive plant(s) have you observed?

Estimate number of plants observed (check the appropriate box)

Less than 50 plants

50-500 plants

More than 500