



Help protect our natural areas for current and future generations:

INSPECT all animals, equipment, footwear, and vehicles before heading to a new site.

REMOVE all plants, animals & mud from boots, gear, pets, & vehicle before and after visiting a site.

STAY on designated roads and trails.

REPORT sightings to DCIST at dcist1@gmail.com or using the Great Lakes Early Detection (GLEDN) App.



Report Findings to Door County Invasive Species Team

The Door County Invasive Species Team (DCIST) goal is to address invasive species in order to sustain resilient ecosystems within Door County for current and future generations. DCIST is committed to providing educational resources and engagement, minimizing and preventing the introduction of new populations, and reducing the impact of existing invasive species populations.

Please help prevent the spread of invasive species by cleaning equipment and reporting invasive species using the Great Lakes Early Detection Network (GLEDN) app or contact DCIST. By cleaning equipment, you can help halt the spread of invasive species and by reporting invasive species you can help invasive species management efforts.

For more information on invasive species in Door County please visit: <https://doorinvasives.org/>

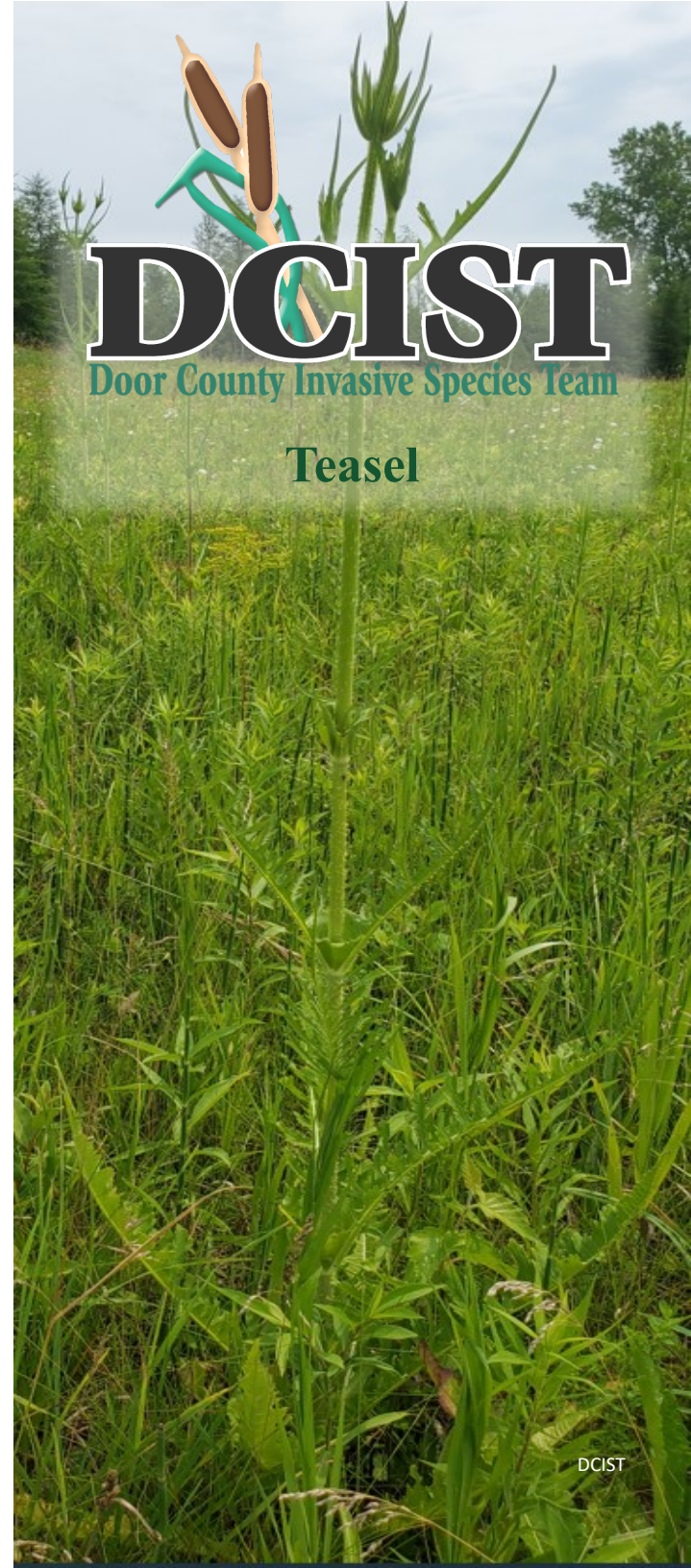
To report an invasive species please use the GLEDN app or contact the DCIST coordinator at:

Phone: 920-746-5955

Email: DCIST1@gmail.com



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DCIST

Door County Invasive Species Team

Teasel

What is Teasel?

Common and cutleaf teasel are two invasive perennials found in Wisconsin. Although similar, the two species differ in the shape of their leaves. Cutleaf teasel leaves are lobed and serrated like a dandelion leaf. Common teasel leaves are not lobed and serrated, like a romaine lettuce leaf. Both are most commonly found in open, sunny areas such as road ditches and prairies. First year plants and consecutive vegetative growth consist only of basal leaves that are low to the ground. Once ready to reproduce, teasel grows a tall spike with small white flowers (cutleaf) or purple flowers (common) in summer or early fall. Plants typically grow 2-8' tall and produce about 2,000 seeds per plant.

Although teasel produce many seeds, they are typically not dispersed (spread) by wind because they are too heavy. This results in most seeds dropping near the parent plant, causing expansion of existing populations. When long-range dispersal does occur, it is often the result of water movement, drifting snow, wildlife, vehicles, and equipment. Teasel infestations outcompete desirable plant species, reduce forage areas, wildlife habitat, and biodiversity. Teasel can even decrease recreational value of properties because of its non-desirable appearance and prickly nature.



Teasel Look-Alikes

Teasel can have several look-alikes, especially when the plant is not in flower. Thistles such as European marsh thistle and Canada thistle can appear similar to teasel if there is only basal leaves present with no flower.



Both thistle species mentioned are also invasive in Wisconsin. Although teasel at first glance may appear similar to these plants, there are several key differences. Teasel leaves are opposite (leaves are paired together) and cup the stem whereas thistle leaves are alternate (alternate sides of the stem) and do not cup the stem. Thistle flowers and seed heads are cup shaped with the bloom emerging from the top where as teasel flowers and seed head are spherical.

European Marsh Thistle



Canada Thistle



How to Control Teasel

There are mechanical and chemical control options available. Please note that control efforts may take several years to have a noticeable effect due to the size of the seed bank (previously dispersed seeds that are stored in the soil). It is important to control plant populations prior to plants going to seed and important to dispose of any and all plant material.

Mechanical/manual methods are best when populations are small. Chemical control is recommended for larger populations. Many herbicides, herbicide combinations and application methods have been tried on teasel and work to a greater or lesser degree. Like any other weed control method, herbicides will fail if used incorrectly. Additionally, depending on population location applicators may be required to have a specialized certification, use site specific approved herbicides, and acquire permits prior to treatment (example: treatments in aquatic habitats).

For more information about other terrestrial invasive species or for control recommendations for teasel please use the QR code or visit the UW Extension Invasive Plants Factsheet database: <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/>

