

The Door County Invasive Species Team

Empowering Door County citizens and municipalities with the information, tools, and skills to tackle invasive species.

Door County Invasive Species News

INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL ANNOUNCES 2023 INVADER CRUSADER AWARD WINNERS

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) congratulates the winners of the 2023 Invasive Species Council Invader Crusader Awards.

The Wisconsin Invasive Species Council selects the Invader Crusader award winners as part of Invasive Species Action Month in June. The governor-appointed council advises the DNR and the state legislature on invasive species issues.

Each year, the council honors Invader Crusaders, individuals, groups or organizations who have made significant contributions to prevent, monitor or control invasive species that can harm Wisconsin's ecosystems, economy and, in some cases, public health.

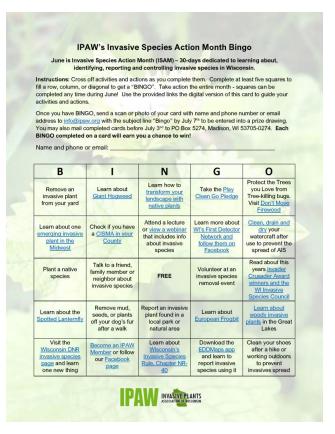
Nominations come from residents and organizations, and awards are given in several categories. For more information about the winners of the 2023 Invader Crusader Awards please visit: https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/newsroom/release/77961.

Invasive Species Action Month Bingo hosted by IPAW

June is Invasive Species Action Month (ISAM) in Wisconsin- a time to learn about, identify, report, and control invasive species! To celebrate and encourage you to take action, we invite you to participate in IPAW's ISAM Bingo. Here's how to participate:

- Download the Bingo card here: https://ipaw.org/about-us/latest-ipaw-news/
- 2. Cross off activities as you complete them, anytime during the month of June. Complete
- 3. at least five squares to fill a row, column, or diagonal to get a "BINGO".
- 4. Once you have a BINGO (or once you have multiple BINGOs and are done with the card), send a scan or photo of your card with your name and email address or phone number to info@ipaw.org OR you can print your card and mail it by July 3rd to IPAW, PO Box 5274, Madison, WI 53705

Each completed BINGO on your card will enter you into a drawing for prizes! Each BINGO completed on a card will earn you a chance to win!



Native Species Highlights

Wisconsin Native Flower Species

Door County is home to many beautiful native plants. Below are a few species that highlight the importance of maintaining our native ecology. The plants below are only a sliver of the species Door County has to offer. While you are outside enjoying summer in Door County, help halt invasive species by reporting any populations on the GLEDN app and landscape with native species!

Thimbleberry (*Rubus parviflorus*): This plant can be found in open woodlands. Thimbleberry earns its name for its cap like fruit that resembles a thimble. This plant resembles a raspberry; however, it has large round leaves that help distinguish it from a raspberry.



Photo by Destination Door County

Wild Columbine (*aquilegia canadensis*): This plant can be found in rocky places and the edges of woodlands. Wild columbine is a perfect match for hummingbirds. Nectar is stored in the closed tips of the petals or closed spurs, discouraging insects and birds that do not have long enough tongues. *Aquilegia* come from the Latin word meaning eagle, *aquila*, because the flowers resemble an eagle's claw.

Photo by Sam Koyen

Lance-leaved Coreopsis (*Coreopsis laneolata*): This plant can be found in fields, prairies, and roadsides. Early settlers appreciated this plant for its effectiveness in repelling fleas and bedbugs in mattresses. *Coreopsis* comes from the Greek work *coris* meaning bug and *opsis* meaning appearance describing what the seeds look like.



Photo by Prairie Moon



Photo by H. Zell

Purple Avens (*Geum rivale*): This plant grows on forest edges and in wet meadows. "Avens" refers to the Latin word *avencia* which means to obscure, referring to the hidden nature of the flowers. *Geum* related to the Greek word *geno* which means "to yield a taste of" because the roots give off a clove-like scent. *Rivale* relates to the Latin word *rivalis* meaning "of riverbanks" referring to where the plant can be found.

DCIST relies on volunteers to help collect data on where invasive plants and animals are found in Door County.

If you're interested in helping, DCIST can provide training on the use of handheld GPS units or you can also use the GLEDN app to report findings via your smartphone. Contact DCIST at dcist1@gmail.com for more information or learn how to download and use the app at https://fyi.uwex.edu/wifdn/.

Keep an eye out for our July Newsletter and keep up to date on our DCIST website at https://doorinvasives.org. We will be posting any and all additional training opportunities & educational materials as we receive them.

Invasive Species Workshops, News, and Volunteer Opportunities

June is Wisconsin Invasive Species Action Month



June has been designated Invasive Species Action Month in our state, a time where educational efforts and information on invasive plants and animals becomes the focus. What better way to show your appreciation for the beautiful natural areas of Wisconsin than report invasive species and help prevent the spread of invasive species? With a few simple steps of cleaning your gear and reporting invasive species, you can help prevent spreading invasive species.

Door County Stewardship Workday – Operation Budburst June 20, 9am – 11pm

Become a community scientist! Join DCLT at Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve to participate in Project Budburst — a community-focused, data-driven approach to plant conservation that is organized by the Chicago Botanic Garden. The Land Trust is participating in Budburst by conducting pollinator observations at our Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve. Learn about the Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve Pitcher's Dune Thistle Habitat Restoration and Neighborhood Outreach Project and how you can further participate. All necessary equipment will be provided. Register to reserve your spot and to receive updates.

For more information visit: https://secure.doorcountylandtrust.org/events-registration-merchandise/event/stewardship-workday-june-20/



Festival of Nature

Wednesdays May 26 through June 16



The Door County Festival of Nature has been brought to you by The Ridges Sanctuary and our partners in conservation to celebrate the natural beauty of the Door Peninsula. Each year we bring forward a slate of field trips, events and experiences to help you explore the unique natural systems found throughout Door County.

To register for this event please visit:

https://www.doorcountyfestivalofnature.org/

Crossroads at Big Creek – Habitat Healers

Saturdays 9-11am

Help heal the earth! Volunteers of all ages are invited to help with our land restoration efforts. Wear clothing and footgear that can get dirty and wet and bring a water bottle. Instruction, equipment, and gloves provided along with cookies and lemonade at the end! No need to register in advance and all ages are welcome.

For more information visit: https://crossroadsatbigcreek.org/event/habitat-healers-3/



Invasive Species Workshops, News, and Volunteer Opportunities

The Ridges Sanctuary Wednesday Work Crew Wednesdays May through October, Time: 9 am – 11:30 am

Join The Ridges Sanctuary staff and volunteers every Wednesday. Work with an enthusiastic group of people in maintaining the Ridges buildings and properties. This includes building projects in the workshop, building and maintaining boardwalks and bridges, cutting and removing trees and maintaining hiking trails and setting up and maintaining informational displays. Please dress for the weather and make sure to wear sturdy closed-toe shoes and long pants.

Location: The Ridges Workshop

Link to learn more about volunteer please visit:

https://www.ridgessanctuary.org/join/volunteer/



Great Lakes Landing Blitz

June 30th-July 9th

Great Lakes Boat Launches

Every fourth-of-July weekend, AIS Partnership members and Clean Boats Clean Waters volunteers reach out to boaters across Wisconsin with a simple but powerful message: You have the power to protect lakes and rivers from aquatic invasive species. This year due to COVID-19 the Landing Blitz and the Drain Campaign have been combined.

Volunteers will be stationed at boat landings around the state to give demonstrations of the preventative steps that boaters must take before they leave the water: **Inspect** your boat, trailer and equipment, **Remove** all attached plants or animals, **Drain** all water from boats, motors, live-wells and other equipment, **Never** move live fish away from a waterbody, **Dispose** of unwanted bait in the trash, **Buy** minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer, and use leftover minnows only if you will be using them on that same waterbody or if no lake or river water or other fish were added to the container.



Be on the Lookout for Garlic Mustard Aphids!



We are calling all citizen scientists to be on the lookout for garlic mustard aphids (Lipaphis alliariae), also known as grenade aphids. These aphids have been identified as garlic mustard specialists originally from Europe. They have not been previously recorded in the United States. Because the aphids may help control invasive garlic mustard plants, we are working with citizen scientists to map their distribution using EDDMaps.

For more information:

https://bugwoodcloud.org/mura/mipn/assets/File/Be%20on%20the%20Lookout%20-%20Garlic%20Mustard%20Aphids%20(2).pdf



European Frog Bit

Invasive Species Profile: European Frog Bit (Hydrocharis morsus-ranae) An invader of Door County

European frogbit (EFB) is a small floating invasive plant that can invade shallow or slow-moving waters. EFB can form large colonies of dense floating mats that can drastically reduce light that native plants need and restrict movement of large fish and diving duck. EFB was first found in Oconto County in 2021. It is a popular plant in the aquarium trade. Two populations were found in Door County in 2022, one in the Little Sturgeon area, the second near the mouth of Fish Creek.

EFB is a free-floating, aquatic plant that can form dense mats of interlocking plants. The leaves are leathery, measure 0.5-2.5" across and are round to heart-shaped. EFB produces small white three petal flowers in mid-summer. This plant rarely reproduces through seed, instead relying on vegetative reproduction.

EFB looks most similar to American frog-bit (*Limnobium spongia*) which is a native frog-bit found in the southern United States. EFB is smooth, often dark purple underneath, with tissues containing air pockets located mostly along the midvein.

Due to the recent discovery of this species in Wisconsin there is not much known for control options. The only known effective control method currently for this plant, is manual control. All known populations are being controlled through hand-pulling and ensuring the entire plant is removed. For more information please visit the Wisconsin DNR page at https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Invasives/fact/EuropeanFrogbit.html. DCIST and the WDNR is asking the public to join in efforts for monitoring for this species.

European frog bit is a prohibited species under Wisconsin's Invasive Species Rule Chapter NR 40. Prohibited species are not currently found in Wisconsin or are found in very low density and few areas. Prohibited species are likely to cause significant environmental and economic harm or harm to human health. The NR 40 Rule makes it illegal to possess, transport, transfer, or introduce invasive species listed as a prohibited species in Wisconsin. If you find European frogbit in Door County, be sure to report it to DCIST or using the GLEDN app!



Photo taken by Leslie J. Mehroff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Photo taken by Erich Haber



Photo taken by Erich Haber

