



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

DCIST Plans for a 2023 Field Season

DCIST this summer will be continuing with its invasive species efforts. These efforts may look similar to past years where staff, contractors, and volunteers monitor and control knotweed, teasel, parsnip, and phragmites. In addition, DCIST will be participating with the WDNR and Lake Michigan partners monitoring for European frogbit. DCIST will continue with its monitoring and control of other prohibited species including porcelain berry, black swallow-wort, Johnson grass, etc. Additionally, to these field efforts DCIST will be monitoring for purple loosestrife. During the 2023 field season DCIST will be using biocontrol purple loosestrife beetles to help address large populations of purple loosestrife in Southern Door.

To grow a greater understanding of existing invasive populations in Door County, DCIST along with partners in 2023 will begin to inventory woody invasive species prioritizing sites based on ecological significance. The hope is to gain a functional understanding of woody invasive species prevalence in ecologically sensitive areas.

DCIST will continue with previous efforts consisting of Clean Boats Clean Waters, public speaking events, media releases, outreach to recreational outfitter, outreach to local bait shops, and bimonthly newsletters. Not only is DCIST expanding field efforts and continuing historic projects, DCIST is also trying out a new outreach program utilizing breweries to access new audiences.

DCIST Gears up to Welcome Gary!

Door County is excited to participate in the Wisconsin DNR purple loosestrife biocontrol program. Biocontrol, short for biological control, is the management of a pest, by introducing a natural predator. Purple loosestrife biocontrol began in Wisconsin in 1994 with the release of two beetle species (*Galerucella californiensis* and *Galerucella pusilla*). Careful research has shown these beetles are effective at managing large purple loosestrife populations. Door County historically raised and released these beetles in the early 2000s. As purple loosestrife decreased with successful control, Door County's beetle population died off. In 2021-2022, DCIST noticed purple loosestrife populations increasing and began laying the framework to reintroduce beetles.

DCIST has named their resident beetle buddies Gary. Gary and his beetle buddies while they adjust to Door County will grow their numbers contained on potted purple loosestrife plants at a nursery site, the Door County Government Center atrium. The kiddie pools keep the "host plants" (purple loosestrife) well-watered as they support Gary and his friends before they can be released. The netting keeps Gary and his buddies safe, warm, and contained. Once their populations are established they are released at predetermined sites. Releases are tentatively planned for July.

For more information about the WDNR Purple loosestrife biocontrol program please visit:

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Invasives/loosestrife.html>



Golden Sands Resource
Conservation and Development

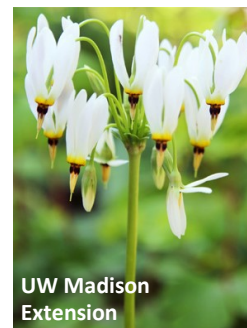
Make sure to check us out on Facebook on the Door County Invasive Species (DCIST) page and at our website <https://doorinvasives.org> for events, news, and more!

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!

Shooting Star (*Dodecamtheon meadia*): This mid spring flower can be white to pinkish white, with flowers that hang upside down. It has 5 petals giving it its star shaped appearance. The petals reach straight back toward the sky giving it the illusion of movement. It is found most commonly in moist meadows, prairies, and open woodland settings.



UW Madison
Extension



UW Madison Extension

Large-flower Bellwort (*Uvularia grandiflora*): This spring/early summer flower is yellow 6 petal flower. The flower hangs downward giving it a bell-shaped appearance. This unique spring bloomer offers nectar to pollinators and is a great addition to more shaded areas. It is found most commonly in woodland settings.

Bird-foot violet (*Viola pedata*): This mid spring flower can bloom again in the fall. It was given its common name due to the deep lobbing leaves that look like birds' feet. It has purple flowers with a deep orange center. It is found most commonly in dry sandy soils.



Alan Cressler



Prairie nursery

Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*): This mid spring flowering shrub can grow up to 12' tall. Flowers give way in the fall to dropping clusters of berries. Berries are often softened and sweetened over winter early spring birds such as cedar waxwings can be seen eating fermented berries. It gets its common name due to its tart fruit which can be eaten. It can handle a variety of site conditions including full to partial sun.

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 June 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 – Pull and Pitch for Preservation May 16



Time to get to work! Help DCLT pull garlic mustard, an invasive species, and remove metal trash to help create a higher quality habitat for our native species at Bay Shore Blufflands Nature Preserve. All you need is a can-do attitude and a refillable water bottle! We will bring the snacks and all necessary equipment. Register to reserve your spot and to receive updates. Please dress for the weather and make sure to wear sturdy closed-toed shoes and long pants.

For more information visit: <https://secure.doorcountylandtrust.org/events-registration-merchandise/event/stewardship-workday-may-16/>

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/>



Door County Land Trust Native Tree Giveaway May 13 & 20



On both days, the events begin at 9am and will continue until all plants are gone. The May 13 giveaway will be located at the Southern Door School parking lot at 2073 County Rd DK in Brussels. On May 20, plants may be picked up at the Stabbur Beer Garden at Al Johnson's, 10698 N. Bay Shore Drive in Sister Bay.

The evergreens include white pine, white spruce, and balsam fir. The perennials selected are New England aster, golden Alexander, and marsh blazing star. These native plants will easily thrive in sun to part-sun in most Door County soils and will attract bees, butterflies, and other native pollinators.

Make sure to check us out on Facebook on the Door County Invasive Species (DCIST) page and at our website <https://doorinvasives.org> for events, news, and more!

Invasive Species Workshops, News, and Volunteer Opportunities

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.doorcountymfestivalofnature.org/>

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



The Door County Invasive Species Team – Samantha Koyen, Coordinator
DCIST Message Line: 920-746-5955; Email: dcist1@gmail.com
Check out our new website at <https://doorinvasives.org>

Knot a Good Time!

Invasive Species Profile: Knotweed Species (*Fallopia Species*) An invader of Door County

Knotweed species (*Fallopia species* aka *Reynoutria* & *Polygonum* species) are tall herbaceous, perennial plants that prefers sunny disturbed sites and are often associated with waterway banks, but can be found in a variety of habitats. Knotweed was introduced in the late 1800s as an ornamental plant and by the 1930s people began to recognize its invasive qualities. This is one of the four species historically DCIST has focused in on controlling because of the impacts it has to infrastructure and ecology. Today we periodically find this plant as a small population on the Door Peninsula making it a high priority for control efforts.

The Wisconsin DNR recognizes three species of knotweed threatening to invade Wisconsin, Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), giant knotweed (*Fallopia sachalinensis*), and bohemian knotweed (*Fallopia x bohemicum*). Knotweeds can grow between 4'-20' tall depending on the species. Knotweeds have erect, hollow stems that resemble bamboo. When plants die back each year, the dried stalks remain standing into the winter. Knotweed blooms in late summer. Flowers are comprised of numerous tiny creamy white or greenish smaller flowers. Although reported to not produce viable seeds, several studies have shown populations can produce viable seed. The most common way of introducing this species is through redistribution of a root or shoot fragments. One small fragment if left unchecked can result in a tap root 6' deep and stout rhizomes spreading out 65'. Some studies indicate knotweeds when stressed can go dormant up to 25 years!

There are both manual and chemical control options available for knotweed with various levels of success. Studies indicate the most effective control strategies consist of cutting the plants when they are 4-5' tall and treating the regrowth when 3' tall with a foliar herbicide. Tests involving needle injection of glyphosate into the lower nodes of each stem have been successful. For more information please visit UW Madison Renz Lab Invasive Plant Management Factsheet at <https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0145/8808/4272/files/A3924-11.pdf> and the Wisconsin DNR at <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/fact/JapaneseKnotweed.html>.

Be aware that clipped plants may grow back and any root or shoot material can readily re-root in soil to produce new plants. Burn or properly dispose of all plant parts that are removed. Mowing is not recommended for knotweed as plant parts may re-sprout and viable pieces of the plant may be dispersed throughout a site. Knotweed populations found along waterways may require an aquatic permit to apply herbicide.

Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) is a restricted species whereas giant knotweed (*Fallopia sachalinensis*) and bohemian knotweed (*Fallopia x bohemicum*), a hybrid of giant and Japanese knotweed, are prohibited species under Wisconsin's Invasive Species Rule Chapter NR 40. Restricted species are those that are already present throughout the state of Wisconsin and are not likely to be eradicated. Prohibited species are not currently found in Wisconsin or are found in very low density and few areas. Both restricted and prohibited species are likely to cause significant environmental and economic harm or harm to human health. The NR 40 Rule makes it illegal to transport, transfer, or introduce invasive species listed as restricted and prohibited species in Wisconsin and it is illegal to possess prohibited species in Wisconsin. **If you find knotweed species in Door County, be sure to report it to DCIST or using the GLEDN app!**



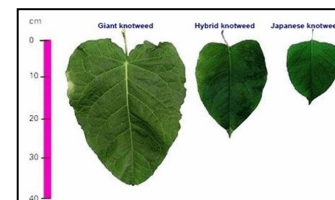
Emmet Judziewicz



Nisa Karimi



S. Kelly Kearns



Knotweed leaf comparison
National Biodiversity Data
Centre