



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

2020 Field Season Wrap Up

The 2020 field season was a busy one! This year was certainly a challenge, but it was also a year full of important discoveries, research, outreach, collaboration, and control of invasive species in Door County. These efforts would not be possible without the amazing seasonal staff including Door County Soil and Water Conservation Department (SWCD) Sam Hoffman and Tina Lee, University of Wisconsin – Green Bay (UW-GB) Andrew Bowker, Jacob Smither and Britney Hirsch, and The Ridges Sanctuary Ben Epley.

Public outreach and education strategies had to be modified due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Door County Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) participants were able to inspect 860 boats and provide aquatic invasive species prevention messaging to over 1,900 people, while taking proper health safety precautions. Partner properties saw higher volumes of use than previous years, they identified 2-3 times more visitors than a typical year.

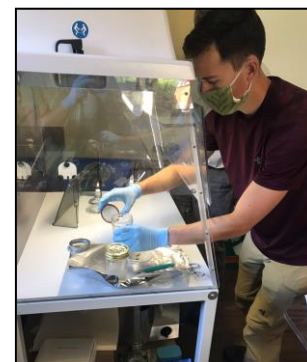
Additionally, DCIST staff participated in 105 one-on-one landowner visits in response to a variety of landowner concerns about invasive species on their properties. These efforts involved identifying and mapping priority invasive species. Field staff utilized the mapped data to treat invasive species populations identified within project boundaries throughout the county, including public and private lands. Later this year the data will be shared on the county web map (<http://map.co.door.wi.us/map/>). Additionally, staff provided recommendations for landowners on management strategies in areas outside of project boundaries.

In 2020, DCIST was able to inventory and treat approximately 52 acres of *Phragmites*, 1.3 acres of teasel, 1.3 acres Japanese Knotweed, 35 acres of wild parsnip, and 1.1 acres of prohibited invasive species (black swallow-wort, porcelain berry, and 5-leaf akebia vine). Additionally, 53 acres of non-priority invasive species (buckthorn, garlic mustard, etc.) were treated. For a total of 143 acres of invasive species treated this year.

This year's innovative efforts by DCIST partners and seasonal staff would not have been made possible without the Door County community. As we head into winter, DCIST will be preparing for another successful year of invasive species education, monitoring, and control efforts in Door County for 2021!



SWCD Tina Lee cutting flower heads from cut-leaf teasel.



The Ridges Ben Epley participating in the Ridges Orchid germination project.



SWCD Sam Hoffman tying Phragmites for bundle cut.



UW-GB Andrew Bowker, Jacob Smither and Britney Hirsch inventorying invasive species.



Native Species Highlights

Wisconsin Native 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 the natural areas in Door County, help halt invasive species by reporting any populations on the GLEDN app and landscape with native species!

Autumn Coral Root (*Corallorhiza odontorhiza*): Is a mycotrophic plant, meaning it gets its nutrients by parasitizing fungi. This orchid is a species of Special Concern in Wisconsin. This unique flower has been described by Minnesota Wildflowers as “a flower only a mother could love” and it blooms in late fall. The flower stalks can grow up to 18 inches tall.



Photos courtesy of Peter M. Dzuik.



Photo courtesy of Peter M. Dzuik.

Winter Berry (*Ilex verticillata*): This native shrub is beautiful in all seasons but is most noteworthy during the winter months when the brightly colored berries are on display. This native species of holly is often used in holiday decorations and earns its common name for the brightly colored seasonal fruit it bears.

Little Blue Stem (*Symphotrichum ericoides*): This stunning grass earns its common name from the bluish hues the blades have during the spring months. During the fall months the grass develops reddish stems.



Photo on the right courtesy of Sam Strickland.
Photo on the left courtesy of Peter M. Dzuik.



Photos courtesy of the University of Maine

Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*): Is not a true cranberry as the name suggests but the berries can still be used to make cranberry sauce. There is a non-native non-edible counterpart to our native highbush cranberry, European highbush cranberry (*Viburnum opulus*). This native bush earns its Latin name trilobum meaning three lobed after the three lobed leaves.

Invasive Species Workshops and Volunteer Opportunities

Delicious but dangerous: Responding to the Michigan red swamp crayfish invasion November 17th 10-11am Central



The newest crayfish invader in Michigan draws a spectrum of opinions. Although many associate red swamp crayfish with crawfish boils, they are also one of the world's most widespread invasive crayfish species and can have a range of negative impacts.

For more information visit:

https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3303148843762023696?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

NAISMA Webinars - The ABCs of Invasive Species Organizations and How They Work Together. November 18th 1pm Central

Sometimes invasive species organizations can be as invasive as the species that they are trying to protect us from and educate us about. This presentation will give an overview of the major national organizations and what their individual focus is. It will highlight their scope, membership and the taxa that they concentrate on.

Past Webinars can be found here:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLA8Berx4-LkN5niy0AAvrp7SblaOa_EZ-&reload=9&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

For more information visit: https://naisma.org/programs/professional-development/webinars/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

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NAISMA Webinars - The Invasive Species Data Mobilization Campaign December 16th 1pm Central



High-quality information is an essential weapon in the fight against invasive species in the West. Land managers, conservation groups, industry, and private landowners need accurate, up-to-date regional invasive species occurrence data. Technological barriers and standardization issues, however, often prevent wide sharing of useful invasive species occurrence data. The Western Governors' Association (WGA) will announce the launch of its Invasive Species Data Mobilization Campaign to encourage national, state, local land managers and conservation groups to enter previously unavailable data into new or existing invasive species data management platforms using recommendations developed by WGA.

For more information visit: https://naisma.org/programs/professional-development/webinars/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

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, we 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 December 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.

Bush Honeysuckle Pretty and Problematic!

Invasive Species Profile: Bush Honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp.*) An invader of Door County

Bush honeysuckles (*Lonicera spp.*) are a group of invasive shrubs that are native to eastern Europe and Asia. They were introduced to North America as an ornamental plant. There are four invasive species of bush honeysuckle documented in Wisconsin: Bell's honeysuckle (*Lonicera X bella*), Morrow's honeysuckle (*Lonicera morrowii*), Tatarian honeysuckle (*Lonicera tatarica*), and Amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*). Honeysuckles can invade forest and grassland habitats and shade out native species. Like many other invasive species, it is thought that honeysuckles have allelopathic chemicals. These chemicals are toxic substances that suppress the growth of other plant species and give invasive honeysuckles a competitive edge over native species.

Bush honeysuckles are dense, multi-stemmed shrubs reaching up to 20' tall, with older stems typically having shaggy, peeling bark. Honeysuckles have opposite leaves paired along the stem and have showy flowers. There are native honeysuckles. One key difference is the center of the stem, the pith. The pith of native bush honeysuckle is solid, while invasive bush honeysuckles are hollow. This difference is most evident in older stems. Additionally, invasive bush honeysuckles have flowers and fruits along the younger stems, while native honeysuckles have flowers and fruits at stem tips.

Invasive honeysuckles can be treated either mechanically or chemically depending on the level of infestation. Mechanical methods, such as hand-pulling and digging, can be effective on small populations if care is taken to remove as much of the root system as possible. Larger plants can be removed using a leverage tool such as a weed wrench. For more dense or established populations, chemical control in the form of a cut-stump or basal bark treatment may be most effective. For more information please visit UW Madison Renz Lab Factsheet at:

<https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0145/8808/4272/files/A3924-03.pdf>

and the Wisconsin DNR at:

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

In Wisconsin, Bell's, Morrow's, Tatarian, and Amur honeysuckles is listed as a restricted species under Wisconsin's Invasive Species Rule Chapter NR 40 for Door County. Amur Honeysuckle is listed as prohibited in the northern half of the state while the other species are listed as restricted under the NR 40 Rule. Restricted species are those that are already present throughout the state of Wisconsin and are not likely to be eradicated and 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 in Wisconsin. **If you find bush honeysuckle in Door County, be sure to report it using the GLEDN app!**



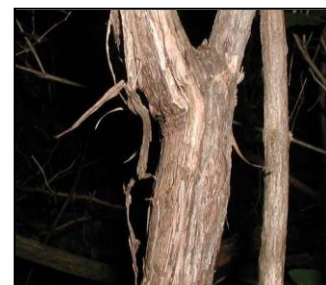
Photo on the left of Amur honeysuckle courtesy of MN DNR. Photo on the right of Tatarian honeysuckle courtesy of Peter Dziuk.



Photo on the left of Bell's honeysuckle courtesy of MN DNR. Photo on the right of Morrow's honeysuckle courtesy of MN DNR.



A pith cross section of Morrow's honeysuckle courtesy of Peter Dziuk.



Bark of Bell's honeysuckle photo courtesy of MN Department of Agriculture.

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!