

ALIPC Bits and Pieces

January 2008

This e-newsletter is intended for current members of the Alabama Invasive Plant Council. If you are not a member please consider joining us in our efforts to identify and address the issue of invasive plant species in the State of Alabama. You can find an application at www.se-eppc.org by clicking on the State Chapter link for Alabama.

On behalf of the ALIPC let me wish each and every one of you a happy new year.

A new year is upon us with projects being planned and others underway. Please feel free to share with us your hard work and efforts at controlling your “favorite” invasive pest. Your project and techniques may be just what someone else is looking for to deal with their own invasive pest problem. Just realize, you are not alone! There are plenty of supporters and cheerleaders ready to help where we can.

The following tidbits are some general information, activities, and educational forums that are going on. Take a moment to read through and feel free to provide feedback!

There is a new Weed Extension Specialist in the Department of Agronomy and Soils at Auburn University. Stephen Enloe’s research and extension program will focus on the biology, ecology, and management of invasive plants in Alabama and the Southeastern US. Stephen received his MS Degree from Colorado State University in 1997 and a PhD in Plant biology from UC Davis in 2002. He has been working at the University of Wyoming (2003-2007) as an Extension Weed Specialist focusing primarily on rangeland and wildland weeds. Stephen is a new board member of the Alabama Invasive Plant Council and will provide expertise in not only weed management, but the formation and maintenance of Weed Management Areas. If you come across Stephen be sure to share some of that southern hospitality and welcome him to Alabama!

There are a lot of educational opportunities coming up:

First and foremost is **ALIPC’s 6th Annual Conference**. This year’s conference will be held at the Alabama 4H Center in Columbiana, Alabama. It is centrally located in the state and very easy to get to just Southeast of Birmingham. Reserve time on your Calendars for **May 13th, 2008**

If you need accommodations, instead of making a long drive, the 4H center has some great accommodations! Click on the link for more information.

<http://www.aces.edu/4hcenter/>

Here is a copy of the conference agenda. As you can see there are some great topics of discussion and opportunities for participation! If you have not been before, you will find it well worth your time.



**Alabama Invasive Plant Council
6th Annual Conference
May 13th, 2008
Alabama 4-H Center, Columbiana, AL**

- 7:45 – 8:45 **Registration** ... visit vendor displays and silent auction
8:45 – 9:00 **Welcome**
 Michelle Isenberg, ALIPC President
- 9:00 – 9:30 **Adaptive Collaborative Restoration (ACR): A Key Concept in Invasive Plant Management**
 Dr. Jim Miller, Invasive Species Scientist, USDA Forest Service R&D
- 9:30 – 10:00 **ACR in Action: Alabama's New Cogongrass Task Force**
 Bill Baisden, Assistant State Forester, Alabama Forestry Commission
- 10:00 – 10:30 **ACR Networks at Work in Alabama to Combat Invasive Plants**
 Gary Kobylski, NRCS State Conservationist
- 10:30– 11:00 **Break** ... visit vendor displays and silent auction
- 11:00 – 11:20 **AL DOT's Cogongrass Strategy**
 Howard Peavey, State Agronomist, AL DOT
- 11:20– 11:40 **A Successful Grassroots Effort to Combat Cogongrass**
 Bart McPherson, SOAR (Save Our Alabama Roadways)
- 11:40 – 12:00 **Update on Alabama's First Cooperative Weed Management Area**
 Andy Prewett, The Land Trust of Huntsville and North Alabama
- 12:00 – 12:30 **Business Meeting**
12:30– 1:30 **Lunch** provided on site ... visit vendors, silent auction
- 1:30 – 3:00 **Concurrent Workshop** (rotate among three outside stations)
 1) **Herbicide Equipment and Safety Training**
 Dr. Jim Miller and Erwin Chambliss, USDA Forest Service
 2) **Invasive Plant ID and Discussion of Control Options**
 Dr. Stephen Enloe and Curtis Hansen, Auburn University
 3) **Invasive Plant Mapping and use of EDDMapS**
 Dr. Nancy Loewenstein, Auburn University
- 3:00 – 3:15 **Break**
- 3:15 – 3:35 **Biofuel development using Invasive Plants**
 Dr. Josh Herring, Alabama A&M University
- 3:35 – 3:55 **Production and Cost Issues when using Invasive Plants for Biofuels**
 Dr. Mathew Smidt, AU School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences and ACES
- 3:55 – 4:15 **Challenges for EDRR, CWMAs and Biofuels: Where do we go from here?**
 Dr. Stephen Enloe, AU Agronomy and ACES Invasive Weed Specialist
- 4:15 – 4:30 **Closing remarks**
 Dr. Nancy Loewenstein, ALIPC President-Elect
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You are also invited to participate in the **2008 ALIPC Annual Meeting Silent Auction**

The Silent Auction will provide some fun and fellowship for the meeting attendees. The proceeds will be used to educate the public and landowners about invasive species threatening Alabama's natural environment. If you would like to participate in the auction by donating an item, contact Tim Albritton, 3381 Skyway Dr., Auburn, AL 36830, Email to: tim.albritton@al.usda.gov , Or Fax to: (334) 887-4551. Tim will be happy to coordinate your donation.

Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council 10th Annual Symposium Hosted by the Mississippi Exotic Pest Plant Council "Managing Invasive Plants in Disturbed Landscapes" May 20- 22, 2008 Imperial Palace Casinos Biloxi, Mississippi

The symposium will offer a timely forum for considering how best to manage invasive plants in disturbed landscapes. Ecological disturbances, such as Hurricane Katrina and the 2007 wildfires in southern Georgia and northern Florida, should raise awareness of these events in the southeastern United States. Two important issues arise out of these disturbances:

- Understanding the responses of invasive plants to natural disturbances and associated recovery and salvage efforts.
- Coordinating ecological restoration of disturbance regimes with the management of invasive plants.

The program of the 10th Annual SE-EPPC Symposium will emphasize, but is not limited to, presentations addressing how invasive plants respond to natural and man-made disturbances and how local communities and stakeholders take action to anticipate and respond to the increased threats posed by invasive non-native plants following such disturbances. The symposium will include plenary sessions, workshops, and field trips.

Registration

Information on registration and a registration form will soon be available on the SE-EPPC Website, www.se-eppc.org.

Posters and Papers

Volunteer papers may be presented orally or as a poster. Abstracts must be submitted electronically by **February 1, 2008** to be considered. Send the paper's title, author(s), and the abstract to John Madsen at jmadsen@grj.msstate.edu. Please see the Call for Papers for details. Authors of abstracts accepted for presentation will be contacted with presentation submission details.

Additional Information

For additional conference information, visit the SE-EPPC Website, www.se-eppc.org, or contact either John Madsen, jmadsen@grj.msstate.edu or Lisa Yager lisa.yager@mmns.state.ms.us

35th Natural Areas Conference - Natural Areas Revival In Music City: Tuning into a changing climate and biological invasion *A joint conference of the Natural Areas Association and the National Association of Exotic Pest Plant Councils*

The Doubletree Hotel - Nashville, Tennessee

The 2008 Natural Areas Conference will be a joint conference of the Natural Areas Association (NAA) and the National Association of Exotic Pest Plant Councils (NAEPPC). The conference will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the NAA and will be an inaugural national conference for NAEPPC. The conference will focus on ecological management themes with an emphasis on invasive exotic species issues. The NAEPPC will bring its invasive species expertise to the conference and the two organizations will provide synergy in organizing what is expected to be an outstanding conference. Join us for an informative and rewarding experience.

**Ninth Annual National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week February 24 - 29, 2008
Washington, D.C.**

The Ninth Annual National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week (NIWAW 9) will be held in Washington, D.C. the week of **February 24 to February 29, 2008** to bring people and groups from across the country together to focus national attention on the severe impacts caused by invasive weeds. Individuals and organizations interested in this issue are invited to participate in this event and help build on the success of NIWAW activities in previous years. NIWAW 9 events are designed to focus on the important roles the Federal government must play to help the U.S. deal with invasive weed problems. We have also designed the schedule to provide ample time for attendees to meet with their Congressional delegations, individual federal agencies and each other.

For More Details Please Visit The NIWAW 9 Website

http://www.nawma.org/niwaw/niwaw_index.htm Points by Sheraton Hotel 1201 K Street NW, Washington, DC is the Headquarters Hotel for NIWAW 9 **For additional information on NIWAW 9 contact:** Dr. Nelroy Jackson (951-279-7787) or nelroyjackson@sbcglobal.net

For those in aquatics, the **APMS (Aquatic Plant Management Society) annual meeting** will be held July 13-16, 2008 in Charleston, SC. If you have any questions, contact:

Tyler J. Koschnick, PhD
Aquatics Research Manager
SePRO Corporation
3021 Gary Kyle Ct.
Medina, OH 44256
440-665-2748

Have you visited the SE-Eppc Listserv? If not go to www.se-eppc.org you will find a wealth of information. Here are some examples:

The Beginning of a New Invasive Plant: A History of the Ornamental Callery Pear in the United States

[The beginning of new invasive plant.pdf](#)

The draft "National Invasive Species Management Plan, 2008-2012" has just been released by the National Invasive Species Council. Comments are being accepted until Feb. 11. For more info, see the attached Federal Register notice. The plan itself can be downloaded at <http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/>. This is your chance to weigh in!

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“Life After People”

You may recall an email request for assistance last winter by a production team for a program called “Life after People”, to locate kudzu overgrowing buildings, cars, etc. John Taylor and Jim Miller provided assistance and possibly others. Jim spent two days with the director of photography filming several locations,,over and over again from different angles....eg kudzu over buildings and bridges at a pre-Civil War textile plant in Tallassee AL (no interviews since no people are shown).

Kudzu is one featured invasive while others will be shown as those "survivors" after people are gone. It should be of interest to many of our membership.

The 2 hour premier of the show “Life After People” aired on January 21st on the History Channel. The show will be aired again on 2/17 at 8pm and 2/18 at 12am. This program should be very eye opening.

Remember to renew your membership!

Your ALIPC annual membership period coincides with each year’s annual conference. **We make it easy!** Your paid registration of \$35, for the annual conference, includes your new or renewing membership dues! By joining or renewing, you help support a very worthwhile organization in its efforts to inform, educate, and involve the public in the very real problem of invasive plants in the state of Alabama. Click on the link below, print out your application, and send it in!!! Make sure to add a note to your \$35 payment that you are registering for the conference!

<http://www.se-eppc.org/alabama/membershipltr.pdf>

Again, If you need accommodations, instead of making a long drive, the 4H center has some great accommodations! Click on the link for more information.

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Please help us out!!!

If you have a noteworthy invasive plant project, interesting article, or a presentation or seminar coming up, that you would like to recognize, please let me know. We would like to share and recognize all of the wonderful efforts that are going on around our state. Send your information to me at andy@landtrust-hsv.org.