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P.O. BOX 5214
Madison, WI 53705

Invasive
Plants
Association of
Wisconsin

Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin



The mission of the Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin is to advance our understanding of invasive plants and encourage their control in order to promote good stewardship of the natural resources of Wisconsin.



What are invasive plants?

Invasive plants threaten all of Wisconsin's natural resources from our northern forests and lakes to our southern prairies, oak woods, and wetlands. Each year more acres are invaded by unwanted plants such as purple loosestrife, leafy spurge or Eurasian water milfoil. They escape and cause problems by out-competing native plants, degrading fish and wildlife habitat, reducing agricultural yields, and hindering recreational activities.

When a plant is introduced to a new area, it leaves its natural enemies behind. Plants in new environments tend to become invasive because their populations are no longer controlled by insects, fungi, disease, grazing animals and competition from other plants. Invasive plants tend to be highly adaptable and are generally successful in a wide variety of habitats.

Weeds cost private citizens and agencies billions of dollars in North America every year. It is estimated that the cost of controlling these plants, combined with the economic loss to our rangelands, crop fields, waterways and forests, approaches \$35 billion annually in the United States alone.

For more information about invasive plants, see our links page at www.ipaw.org.

What is IPAW?

The Invasive Plant Association of Wisconsin is a non-profit organization that:

- Provides a focus for issues and concerns regarding invasive plants in Wisconsin
- Facilitates the exchange of information regarding all aspects of invasive plant control and management
- Provides a forum where all interested parties may participate in workshops and symposiums and share in the benefits of the information generated by IPAW
- Promotes public understanding regarding invasive plants and their control
- Serves as an advisory resource for funding, research, management and control of invasive plants
- Facilitates efforts to monitor and control invasive plants in Wisconsin
- Works to review incipient and potential invasive plant management problems and activities and provide relevant information to interested parties

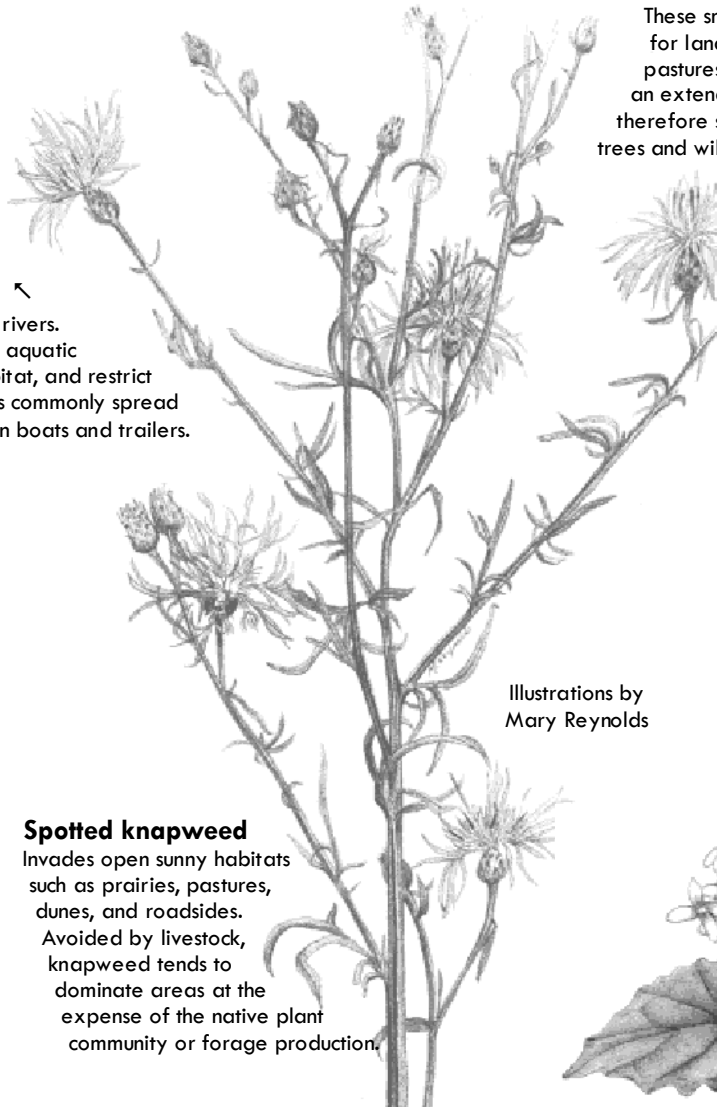
IPAW depends on your support to accomplish these goals. Your membership and volunteer assistance provide the resources to produce communication and educational materials, develop public education presentations, maintain our web site, and host our bi-annual conference.

Invasive plants in Wisconsin – Some examples



Eurasian water milfoil ↖

Infests our lakes, ponds, and rivers. Dense mats shade out native aquatic plants, degrade wildlife habitat, and restrict boat access. Water milfoil is commonly spread by plant fragments caught on boats and trailers.



Spotted knapweed

Invades open sunny habitats such as prairies, pastures, dunes, and roadsides. Avoided by livestock, knapweed tends to dominate areas at the expense of the native plant community or forage production.

Buckthorns/bush honeysuckles ↓

These small trees and bushes, commonly planted for landscape purposes, now invade forests, pastures, prairies, and wetlands. They utilize an extended growing season, and therefore shade out young native trees and wildflowers.



Illustrations by
Mary Reynolds



Purple loosestrife

Infests wetlands, shorelines, wet meadows, and roadsides. Dense stands of purple loosestrife replace native plants that provide food and cover for wildlife.



Garlic mustard

Invades forests and roadsides. An early bloomer, garlic mustard shades out spring wildflowers and other native understory herbs before they get a chance to develop.

What can you do?

- Learn to identify invasive species
- Avoid spreading invasives
- Control invasives on your own property
- Encourage and educate others
- Plant non-invasive plants in your garden
- Support IPAW and local groups working on invasive plant issues
- Become active in an IPAW committee and share your knowledge and skills

Local groups working on invasive plant issues currently exist in several counties in Wisconsin. Contact us for information on local contacts.

Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin

website: www.ipaw.org

P.O. Box 5274 / Madison, WI 53705

e-mail: info@ipaw.org

I'd like to join IPAW!

Student	\$10.00
Individual	\$20.00
Family	\$30.00
Organization/Agency	\$100.00
Additional Contribution	_____

Donations accepted in any amount!
Contributions are tax deductible.

Mail to:

IPAW

P.O. Box 5274

Madison, WI 53705-0274

I'd like to volunteer!

Check areas of interest:

- Education and Communication Committee (*newsletter, website, educational material, displays, brochures, speakers bureau*)
- External Relations Committee (*plant industry, governmental*)
- Fundraising and Development Committee
- Membership Committee
- Science Committee (*strategic planning, mapping standards, control and monitoring*)

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Mailing address: _____

City, State, ZIP code: _____

Telephone: _____

Email address: _____