

Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership:

A CWMA in progress



Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area



How we got started

It did not happen overnight

2003 – Local partners received funding from Chicago Wilderness (CW) to develop and implement a regional Early Detection and Rapid Response Program (New Invaders Watch Program (NIWP)) and to establish a pilot Cooperative Weed Management Area in Lake and McHenry Counties.

2008 – Chicago Wilderness Natural Resource Management Team expresses interest in establishing a CWMA in the Chicago region. In partnership with the Midwest Invasive Plant Network, local partners and CW host a workshop for over 65 organizations and agencies in the Chicago area to learn about CWMA's and discuss the merit of forming a regional CWMA in the Chicago Region.

Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area, Grundy County, IL



The saga continues . . .

2008/2009 – An ad hoc committee is formed to develop a model of how a CWMA in the Chicago region might be organized. Partners develop a long term work plan for the CWMA based on partner needs expressed in the workshop.

2010 – Chicago Wilderness receives \$96,000 of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Funds from the US Forest Service to start up a CWMA in northeast Illinois, which includes the Lake Michigan watershed. Partners hire a regional Invasive Plant Management Coordinator and “NIIPP” is born.

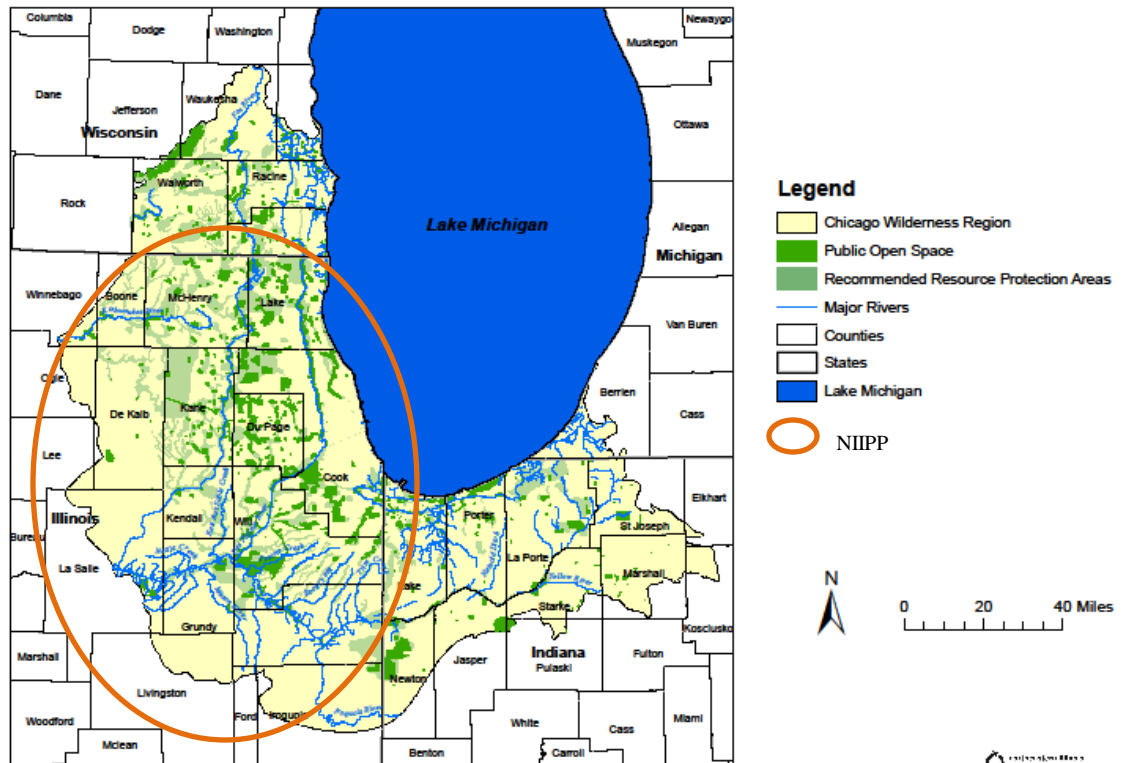


Lake in the Hills Prairie, McHenry County, IL

Chicago Wilderness

- Founded 14 years ago
- Alliance of 254 partner organizations
- Multiple initiatives and collaborations
- Over 370,000 acres of natural areas

The Chicago Wilderness Region



Map Creation Date: 17 March, 2008; Map File Name: CWAApprovedBoundary.MXD; W:\pdr\figwork\PSD\Tech\Map_1\header\CWAApprovedBoundary080321

CHICAGO WILDERNESS
Alliance
Conservation and Resource Stewardship

Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership (NIIPP)

- 18 counties in northeast Illinois
- More than 60 potential partners in diverse fields



Northern Flatwoods, Lake County, IL



Japanese Stiltgrass



Flowering Rush



Mesic Forest, Lake County, IL



Garlic Mustard

Priorities

- Invasive Plant Education
- Early Detection and Rapid Response

Priorities

- Coordinate Control and Management
- Research on Invasive Plant Biology and Control



Tallgrass Prairie, Chicago Botanic Garden

Current Projects



Savanna, Lake County, IL



Oriental Bittersweet



Lyme grass

- Small grants for on-the-ground control work
- Spring/Summer NIWP Training
- Roadside maintenance workshop

Current Projects

- Outreach to new partners, transportation, utilities, railroads
- Partnering on *Hydrilla* outreach and management
- Partnering on aquatic invasive species outreach and education
- Assist with IL Invasive Species Awareness Month
- Green industry education and outreach



Silver Lake Conservation Area, McHenry County, IL



Cutleaf Teasel



Reed Canary Grass



Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area



Spotted Knapweed



Leafy Spurge

In the near future

- Chicagoland Strike Team
- Online target species distribution maps
- Restoration skills training for community park districts

http://ewrr.inhs.uiuc.edu/NewInvaders/pdf/NewInvadersWatchProgramTraining2008.pdf - Windows Internet Explorer

http://ewrr.inhs.uiuc.edu/NewInvaders/pdf/NewInvadersWatchProgramTraining2008.pdf

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New Invaders Watch Program

A Volunteer-Based Program
to
Identify, Map and Control
New Exotic Invasive Species

www.NewInvaders.org



Done Unknown Zone

New Invaders Watch Program

23 Regional Early Detection Rapid Response Species


- Natural history
- Current locations
- Identifying characteristics
- Native look-alikes
- Habitat preferences
- Control methods



Vincetoxicum nigrum
(Black swallow-wort)

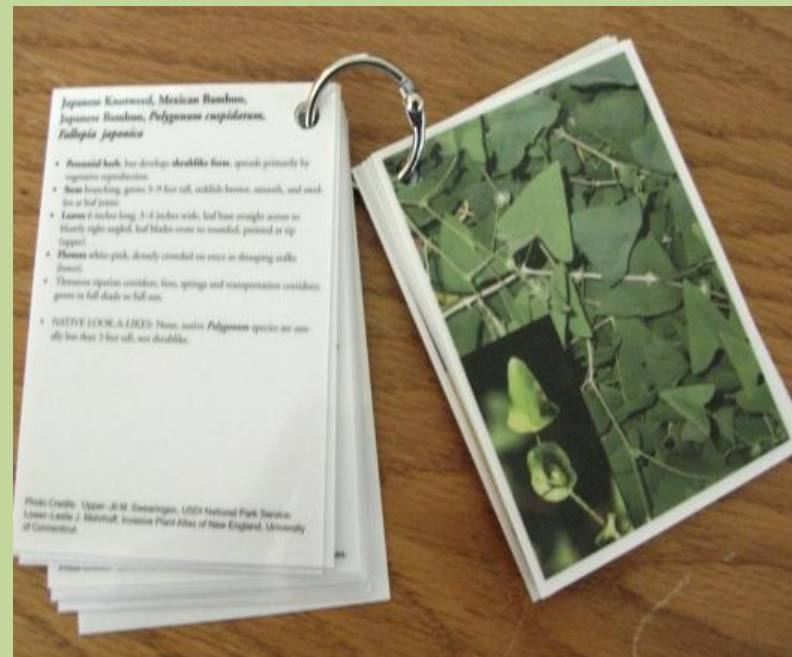
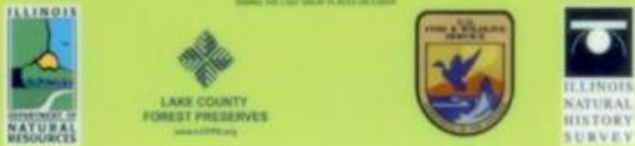
New Invaders Watch Program

New Invaders Watch List
*An Early Detection and Rapid Response
Network to Limit the Spread
of New Invasive Exotic Species in Illinois*



*Preventing the spread of new, exotic invasive species is a
critical step toward controlling a major threat to the health
of our natural ecosystems.*

The Nature Conservancy
SHARING THE LATEST GREAT PLACES ON EARTH



NIWP ID cards with photos and identification characteristics listed on back

New Invaders Watch Program

Report a New Invader

- Register for user ID and password
- Provide location of population by Google Earth or GPS coordinates
- Provide photo or voucher specimen

New Invaders Watch Program Data Collection Form

Use this form in the field and enter data electronically on our website: <http://www.NewInvaders.org> (or mail to address below). Please fill in both sides as completely as possible. A glossary is available at the website. Resulting plant vouchers must have copy of this form and be sent to: Dr. Rick Philippe, New Invaders Watch List, Illinois Natural History Survey, 1816 S Oak, Champaign, IL 61820. Send insect vouchers to: Dr. R. Edward DeWalt at the same address. Vouchers become the property of the INHS.

Observer / Collector Information Note: Contact information will not be distributed

Name _____ Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Species ID Information

Genus _____ Species _____ species/cultivar _____

Common Name _____ Date Observed (m/d/yyyy) ____/____/____

Web Entry Record Number _____ (After submission, a record number will appear with the name of the invader)

Species Location Information

Place Name/Town Name (as in 5 mi or 8 km NE Palos Park) _____

State _____ County _____

Principle Meridian: _____ Township, Range, Section(s), (Quarter/Quarter): T _____ N / S (circle) R _____ E / W (circle)

Sec. _____ 1/4 _____ 1/4 _____ Latitude/Longitude (decimal degrees: XX.XXXX) Lat. _____ Long. _____ W

Datum: ☐ NAD 1927 ☐ NAD 1983 ☐ Other _____

How did you determine your location? ☐ Topo map ☐ GIS ☐ GPS ☐ Plat map ☐ Google Earth ☐ Gazetteer ☐ Other _____

Walking directions to location / Best access _____

Location landmarks (roadways, buildings, lakes, etc.) _____

Land Ownership Information: (Do not enter private property without permission) Contact information will not be distributed.

Land Owner Type: ☐ Non-profit org. ☐ Village, City, Town ☐ County ☐ State ☐ Federal ☐ Private ☐ Unknown

Land Owner Name _____ Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Other Land Owner Name: _____

Public Land Name: _____

Other Land Name: _____

Status of Occurrence

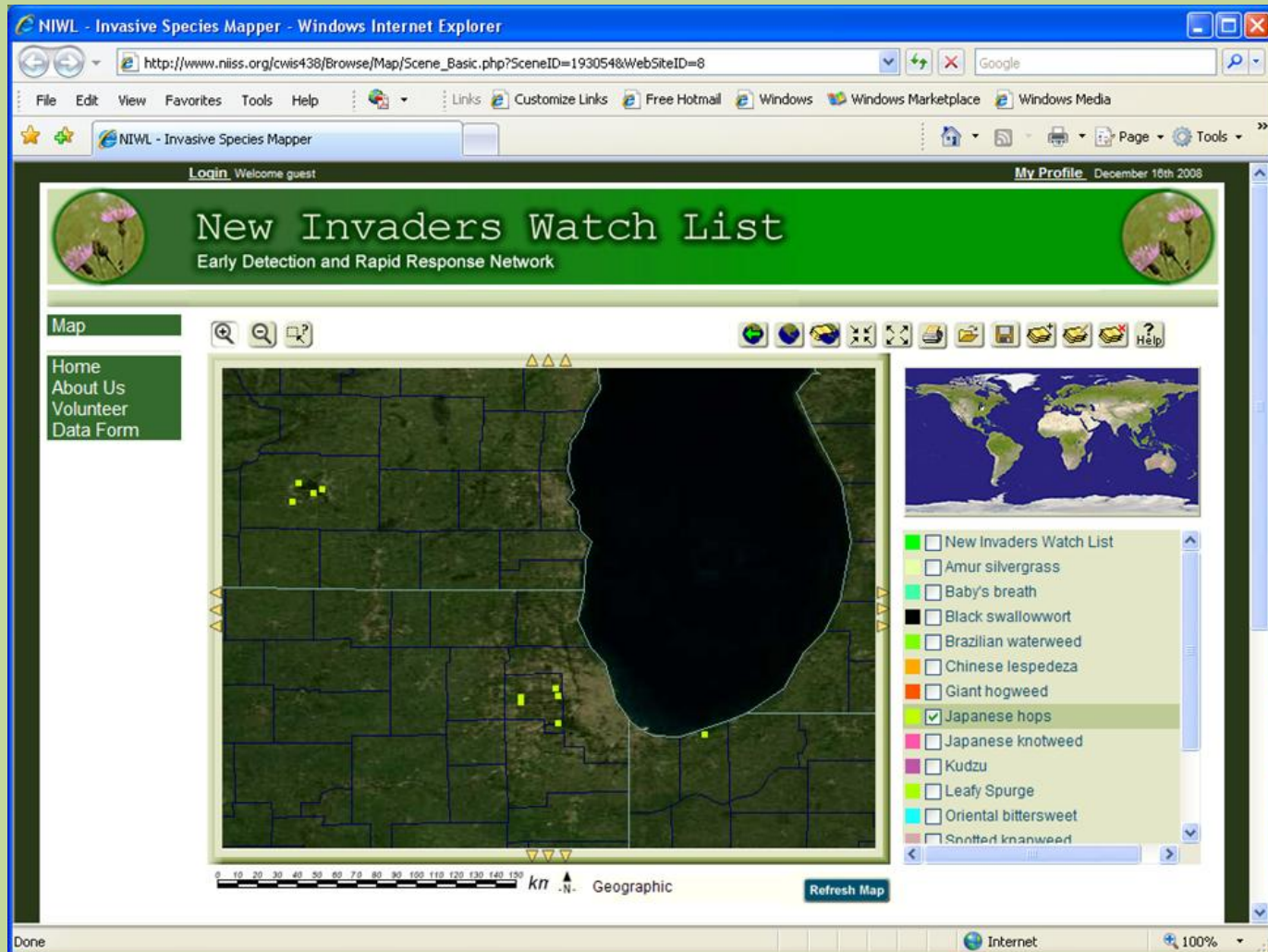
Area affected / Gross area of infestation: _____ ft² or _____ m²

How is the plant population distributed in the area affected? (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5

[1= few scattered plants, 2= several small clumps, 3= evenly scattered / numerous clumps, 4= large patch(es) 5= extensive or complete coverage]

Plant Growth stage(s): ☐ In flower ☐ In fruit ☐ Seedlings ☐ Seeds present ☐ Vegetative reprod. occurring ☐ Dormant/Dead

New Invaders Watch Program



NIWP Species Distribution Maps

New Invader Watch Program



The benefits of an
EDRR program

Giant hogweed nipped in the bud

Two of the noxious
plants discovered
in Lake Forest.

By Frank Matera/Staff Writer
frankm@dailyherald.com

LAKE FOREST — The
erect, white-
flowered stems of
an alien in-
vader will
soon be
seen in the
open fields
near the
city of Lake
Forest.

The giant hogweed
has been found in
a few small areas near
the city and in some
fields near the city.

The first giant hogweed
was found in a field near
the city of Lake Forest
last year.

It is a tall, white-
flowered plant that
grows in the
open fields near the
city of Lake Forest.
It is a tall, white-
flowered plant that
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city of Lake Forest.

The first giant hogweed
was found in a field near
the city of Lake Forest
last year.



A five-foot tall giant hogweed plant found in Lake Forest contains the toxic chemical, pterodiol, that will irritate and burn the skin. The plant is found in the fields near the city of Lake Forest, and it is a tall, white-flowered plant that grows in the open fields near the city of Lake Forest.

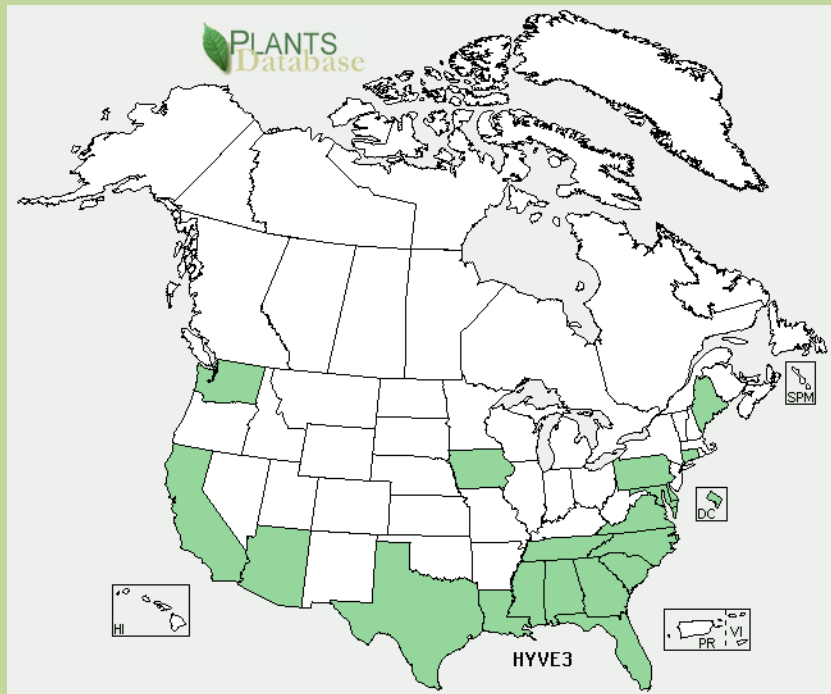


Water drips from the stalk of a giant hogweed plant in Lake Forest.

TOP PICK
The first giant hogweed
was found in a field near
the city of Lake Forest
last year.

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was found in a field near
the city of Lake Forest
last year.

New Invaders Watch Program



Hydrilla verticillata

Hydrilla Management Plan



- Statewide
- Early Detection & Rapid Response
- Public, nonprofit, and private sector

Hydrilla Management Plan

Early Detection:

- Education and Outreach
- Training
- Expanding Monitoring and Reporting



Rapid Response:

- Establish Response Team
- Obtain Permits/Permissions
- Determine capacity to respond to invasion (financially and legally)



LOOK-ALIKES:

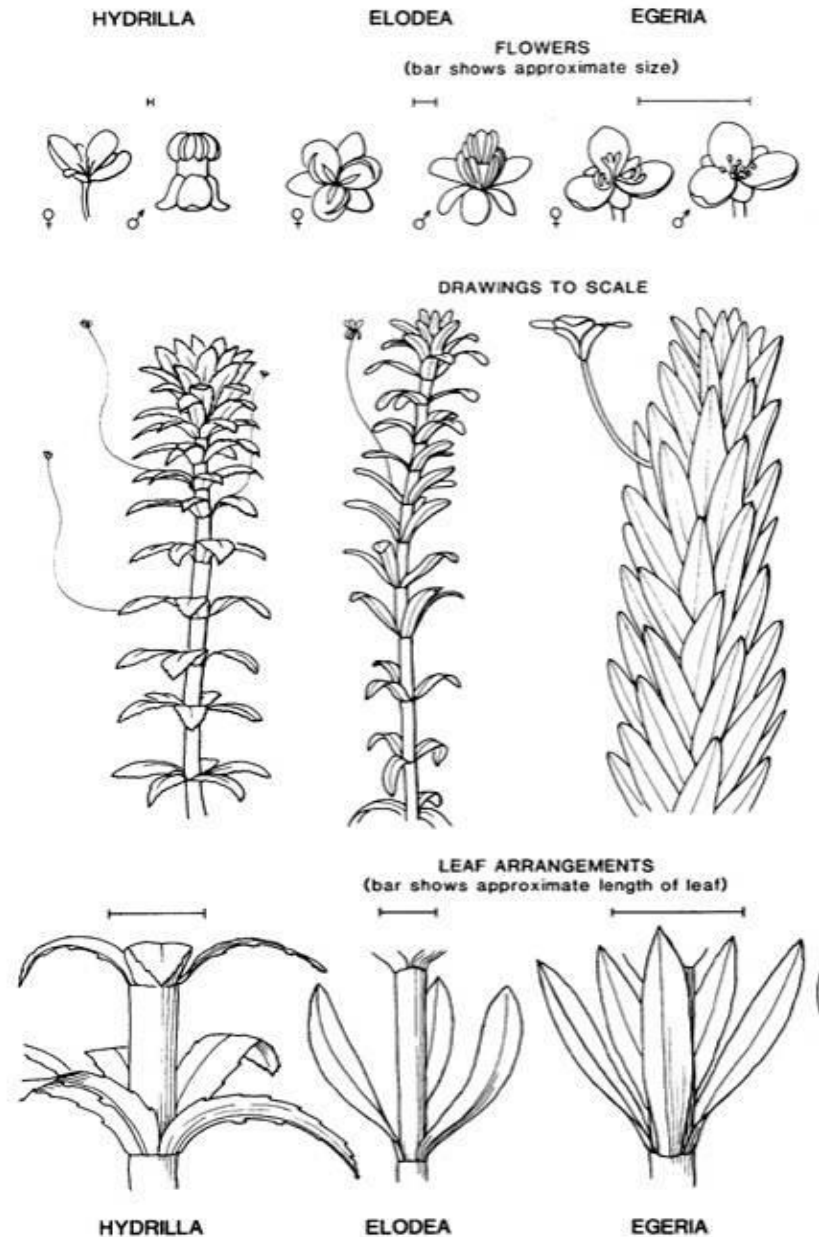
Brazilian Waterweed; leaves longer, in whorls of 4 - 6 (8), bushier in appearance, without tubers.

Hydrilla; leaves in whorls of 3 - 8 with tiny spines along the leaf margins. The midrib of each leaf is often reddish. Hydrilla produces tubers (small potato-like structures).

Common Waterweed, *Elodea canadensis*; leaves occur in whorls of 3 around the stem (or opposite), without tubers.



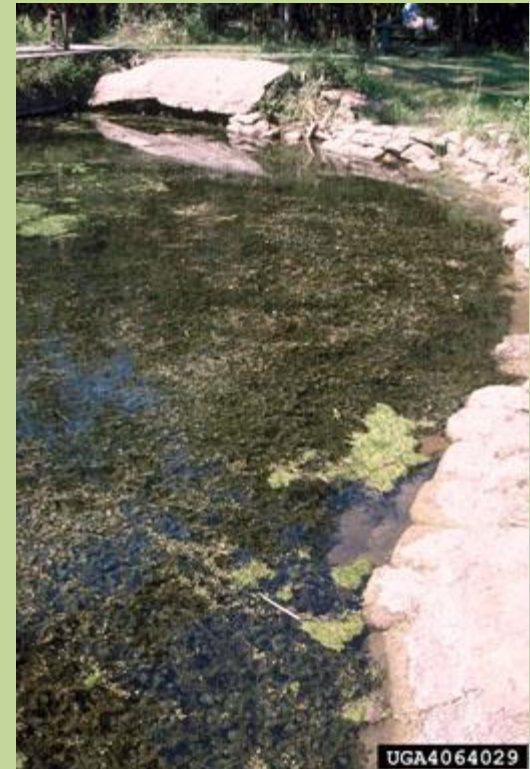
Common Waterweed



Hydrilla Management Plan

Current Partners:

Chicago Wilderness Aquatic Task Force
Illinois Lakes Management Association
Chicago Botanic Garden
Lake County Health Department: Lakes Management Unit
Northeast Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership
Illinois EPA
Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program
Integrated Lakes Management
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
University of Georgia-Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health
River to River CWMA
USDA APHIS
Midwest Invasive Plant Network



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Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area