

PISC newsletter special edition – February 28, 2022

Welcome to a special edition of the Pennsylvania Invasive Species Council (PISC) News.

For [National Invasive Species Awareness Week](#), we've curated some resources to expand your understanding of non-native invasive plants, insects, and animals and the challenges they present to our environment and economy.

You'll also learn about some work underway to meet this challenge that could inform your or your organization's efforts.

What better time to spread the word on invasive species? Please consider sharing this issue or the [PISC newsletter sign-up web page](#) with your networks.

— [Kris Abell](#), Coordinator, [Pennsylvania Invasive Species Council](#)



Webinars

[Climate Change and Invasive Species](#) – Live March 1 | 12:00 P.M. EST

North American Invasive Species Management Association

The North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA) supports the inclusion of the impacts and influence of invasive species in climate change legislation, policy, management, and research.

The reverse is also important; the impacts and influence of climate change must be incorporated into invasive species management and policy. This webinar provides an overview of the intersection of invasive species and climate change.

[Understanding People and Communicating with Them about Invasive Species](#) – Live March 1 | 2:30 P.M. EST

Canadian Council on Invasive Species

Many invasive species are introduced and spread by people, often by their habits and actions. By understanding people and their activities, we can develop more effective approaches to modify their behaviors to reduce the introduction of invasives.

[Trade Pathways for Invasive Species: Insights from Seller and Consumer Surveys](#) – Live March 2 | 1:00 P.M. EST

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources assessed risks associated with global trade and activities that rely on the movement and possession of live organisms, including the pet, horticulture, food, bait, and biological supply trades.

A workshop and surveys of businesses and hobbyists, and an in-store assessment of the availability of invasive species at Minnesota aquarium shops and live seafood markets have provided a better understanding of present-day risks associated with trade pathways.

[Pennsylvania Lake Erie Environmental Forum: Invasive Species in the Lake Erie Watershed](#) – February 7 (Recording)

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and Pennsylvania Sea Grant

Invasive species experts in the Great Lakes region discuss invasive carp, the Army Corps of Engineers Brandon Road Interbasin project to prevent upstream movement of carp into the Great Lakes from the Illinois Waterway, water use and trends in Pennsylvania and the Great Lakes, and more topics.

[Green Isn't Always Good](#) – July 15, 2021 (Recording)

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

Learn about the major threats and challenges of invasive plant species and options for incorporating native plants into gardens. The native plant gardens at Fallingwater are showcased.

Videos

[Economic Impacts of Invasive Species in Pennsylvania](#)

We can't ignore the increasing number of invasive plants, insects, and animals in Pennsylvania. We can't afford to. Here's a quick rundown on some of the costs of invasive species, compiled by the Center for Rural Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Invasive Species Council.

[Legislative Hearing: Impacts of Invasive Species in Pennsylvania](#)

The Center for Rural Pennsylvania, chaired by Senator Gene Yaw, held the state legislature's first hearing on the economic impacts of invasive species on August 24, 2021. Testimonies by leaders in government, industry, academia, and other sectors show that invasive species are pervasive statewide, cause millions of dollars in damage to Pennsylvania's agricultural and forestry industries, and degrade the quality of our recreational assets.

[Invasive Plant Species: Spotlights](#)

In these videos from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry, ecologist Kelly Sitch and botanist Andrew Rohrbaugh are in the field, providing a show and tell on some highly invasive species.

- [Mile-A-Minute](#) – This invasive vine is a menace that can grow up to six inches in a day.
- [Wavyleaf Basketgrass](#) – Found along forested trails, this grass can overshadow and take over native species.
- [Garlic Mustard](#) – This biennial species can spread thousands of seeds producing small plants in the first year and taller seeding plants the second year.
- [Purple Loosestrife](#) – Often used in backyard ponds and water gardens, purple loosestrife spreads quickly and outcompetes native species in rivers, streams, and other waterbodies.
- [Poison Hemlock](#) – All parts of this plant are extremely toxic and should never be touched. Seen along roadways, fields, and other disturbed areas, this rapidly spreading species should be avoided or handled with extreme caution.

[Aquatic Invasive Species 101](#)

Pennsylvania Sea Grant has created a multi-part series about aquatic invasive species (AIS). In this video, learn what AIS are, what makes them invasive, and the impacts they can have on Pennsylvanians' environment, economy, and health.

[Uninvited: The Spread of Invasive Species](#)

This video by the New York State Department of Conservation presents invasive species threats and management in a very relatable way for any audience in any state. Numerous invasive species are explored in various settings, including the impacts and management of the spotted lanternfly at Setter Ridge Winery in Kutztown, Pennsylvania.

Fact Sheets and Field Guides

Check out these materials for everything from basic 'get to know' a species to more in-depth descriptions about range, look-alikes, and remediation options.

[Invasive Plant Fact Sheets](#): The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources provides dozens of detailed fact sheets on specific trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, herbs, and aquatic plants.

[Aquatic Invasive Species Field Guide](#): Pennsylvania State Sea Grant gives you tips for prevention, identification, reporting and collecting, as well as details like habitat, environmental impacts, maps depicting species location and spread, and more.

[Plant THIS not THAT](#): The Audubon Society lists great native species alternatives to common ornamental plants.

Campaigns

These online campaign kits provide resources that will educate, inspire, and engage any audience.



[Habitattitude](#)

Habits, Attitude, and Habitat — together they comprise Habitattitude™. This educational campaign addresses common concerns about invasive species by inspiring and empowering people to make connections between responsible pet ownership and environmental stewardship.



[Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers](#)

Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! is a national campaign that helps recreational water users be part of the solution. Resources available include signs, fact sheets, images and graphics, and national contact information for invasive species management professionals.

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