

Prepared by CWIP Coordinator Asa Plonsky. Published January 18, 2021

## Education

CWIP continued to hold education events despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Multisession Forest Invasives Webinar, held in September, focused on identification of common, less common, and early detection forest invasive plants. One session also discussed mapping and monitoring. An average of 95 people attended each session of the webinar. To supplement this online event, the CWIP coordinator created species identification guides. The webinar and identification guides can be viewed on the [CWIP website](#).



Glossy buckthorn, a forest invasive plant

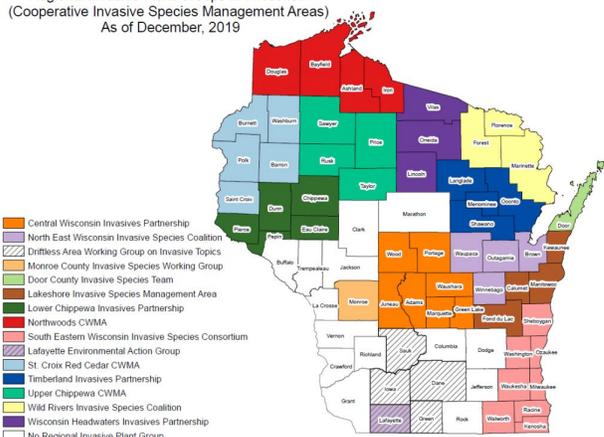
This summer, CWIP also organized a 2020 Summer Mapping Blitz event where volunteers mapped invasive plants along roadsides. Volunteers received virtual training before mapping their assigned route. The training webinar can be viewed on the [CWIP website](#).

This year CWIP shared over 150 Facebook posts. Our page has more than 500 likes. Become a part of our community and like our [Facebook page!](#)



## Cooperation with Members and Partners

Regional Invasive Plant Groups in Wisconsin  
 (Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas)  
 As of December, 2019



In 2020, CWIP developed relationships with other Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMAs) in Wisconsin by participating in CISMA conference calls and the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference and attending meetings for other CISMAs.

CWIP currently has nine member organizations and is looking to accept new members. The list of member organizations is on the [CWIP website](#). **Contact the CWIP coordinator to learn how your organization can become a member!**

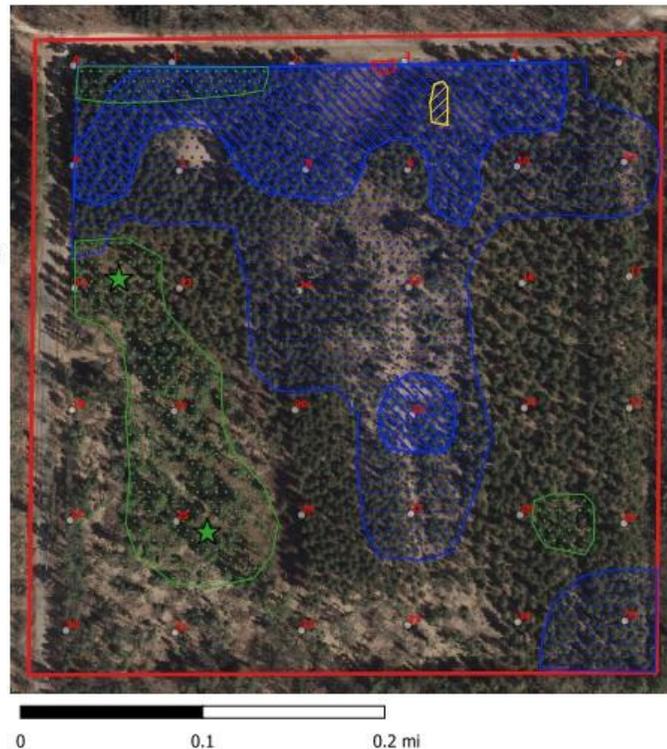
## Monitoring and Early Detection

In early summer, CWIP monitored locations in Portage, Juneau, Adams, Waushara, and Marquette Counties for reported prohibited plants including Japanese hops, poison hemlock, and European marsh thistle. Although we did not find any of these species, residents should stay aware and contact CWIP with any reports.

As part of our 2020 Summer Mapping Blitz, CWIP recruited and trained volunteers to survey roadsides. Volunteers mapped 325 miles of road in Portage, Juneau, Adams, Waushara, Marquette, and

Green Lake Counties and submitted 241 invasive species reports! You can view the data on [EDDMapS.org](https://www.eddmap.org) and with the Wisconsin First Detector Network's [WISTIPP Viewer](#).

CWIP additionally surveyed 54 acres of private forest land in Portage County for invasive plants including buckthorn, black locust, honeysuckle, autumn olive, and garlic mustard. Maps created from these surveys will guide future control efforts.



Map created from forest invasive species survey

## Get Involved!

There are lots of ways to get involved in CWIP. Here are some ideas. Visit the [CWIP website](#) and contact the [CWIP coordinator](#) to get started.

- **Report invasive species** growing in your community.
- **Encourage your organization to become a CWIP member.** Formal membership in CWIP shows a commitment to collaborative invasive species management.
- **Attend CWIP meetings** and share your thoughts and ideas.
- **Volunteer** with us to control invasive plants.
- **Learn and share** information about invasive species. We share articles and tidbits on the [CWIP Facebook page](#). Like our page and share posts with friends and neighbors and encourage them to start controlling invasives on their property!
- **Donate** [to Golden Sands RC&D](#) and designate funds to CWIP.

## Invasives Management

CWIP controlled Japanese hedge parsley in a Portage County forest this summer. Japanese hedge parsley has bur-like seeds that are easily transported along trails. **Remember to remove seeds from your gear and pets before and after hiking to prevent spreading species like hedge parsley!**

We additionally controlled approximately 90 acres of spotted knapweed to restore habitat for the endangered Karner blue butterfly in Portage and Waushara Counties. This work was

completed through a partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

CWIP even treated black locust on forested private property that was surveyed and mapped for various invasive plants (see pg 2 Monitoring and Early Detection).



Karner blue butterfly



CWIP coordinator with Japanese hedge parsley



Open woodland before and after black locust control

Golden Sands RC&D is CWIP's fiscal agent. Golden Sands RC&D focuses on projects that support clean water, healthy forests, abundant wildlife, and sustainable agriculture in Central Wisconsin. Learn more at [www.goldensandsrcd.org](http://www.goldensandsrcd.org)!



**Golden Sands**  
Resource Conservation  
& Development Council, Inc.

## CISMA Coordination + Financials

As of late October 2020, CWIP had \$49,398 available from various grant awards. In 2020, two DNR-funded projects were closed. This included a project to monitor state prohibited plants and a project to coordinate CWIP.

Active grant projects include two different U.S. Forest Service Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) - Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA) grants and three DNR-funded projects. The DNR-funded projects include the Multisession Forest Invasives Webinar (see pg 1, Education), a project to survey and control invasive plants on private forest land (see pg 2, Monitoring and Early Detection and pg 3, Invasives Management), and an upcoming project to control Japanese knotweed along a stream. CWIP submitted two grant applications for the U.S. Forest Service GLRI - CWMA grant program in early December 2020. We look forward to hearing back from the grant contact in early 2021.

## Future Plans

CWIP is dedicated to improving regional invasive plant management. In 2021 we will...

- Apply for the the DNR Private Forest Grant Program this spring.
- Continue control efforts for Japanese hedge parsley, spotted knapweed, and forest invasive plants.
- Begin controlling Japanese knotweed along a trout stream in Portage County.
- Hold an education workshop and volunteer workdays with partners.

**If you'd like to volunteer for any of our 2021 projects, please contact us!**

## Thank you to our grant funders...

CWIP receives funding in part from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) grants and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grants through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). CWIP, Golden Sands RC&D, WDNR, the Forest Service, and EPA are equal opportunity providers.



### CONTACT US

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