**Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP)**

**Fall Partner Meeting Notes**

**November 4, 2021 | 9:30am-12:00pm | Zoom**

**Present for APIPP**

* Adellia Baker, Seasonal Invasive Species Steward
* Becca” Bernacki, Terrestrial Invasive Species Coordinator
* Brian Greene, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator
* Emily-Bell Dinan, Education and Outreach Coordinator
* Tammara Van Ryn, Program Manager
* Zack Simek, Conservation and GIS Analyst

**Speakers**

* Karen Strong, Strong Outcomes
* Eric Paul and Michale Glennon, Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI)
* Sawyer Gardner, USDA APHIS

**Attendees**

* Becky Miller, NYS Department of Transportation (NYSDOT)
* Ben Brosseau, Adirondack Mountain Club
* Blake Neumann, Adirondack Council
* Brea Arvidson, Lake George Association
* Brendan Wiltse, AWI
* Caitlin Stewart, Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District
* Cathy McGlynn, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)
* Carri Brown-Lima, NYS Invasive Species Research Institute
* Carrie Pershyn, Ausable River Association
* Christine Colley, NYSDOT
* Dave Wick, Lake George Park Commission
* Derek Rogers, Adirondack Land Trust
* Donna Baribeau, Master Gardener Volunteer and Adirondack Garden Club
* Emily Tyner, Lake Clear Association
* Erin Vennie-Vollrath, NYSDEC
* Everett McNeill, East Shore Schroon Lake Association
* Ezra Schwartzberg, Adirondack Research
* Guy Middleton, Upper Saranac Foundation
* Gwendolyn Craig, Adirondack Explorer
* Jack Mulcahy, Eagle Lake Property Owners
* Jackie Bowen, Adirondack Council
* Justin Luyk, Lake George Park Commission
* John Marino, iMapInvasives/NY Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP)
* Kathy Regan, Adirondack Park Agency
* Kristen Wilde, Lake George Association
* Mary Johnson, Chateaugay Lake Foundation
* Meg Modley, Lake Champlain Basin Program
* Peter Dunleavy, NYSDOT
* Phil Fitzpatrick, Osgood Pond Association
* Robert Slocum, NYSDEC
* Ryan Nerp, Adirondack Council
* Steve Young, NYNHP
* Susan Smith, Volunteer
* Thom Allgaier, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
* Tom Parent, Lakeview Landing
* William Thayer, Volunteer
* Zach Matson, Adirondack Explorer
* Zoe Smith, AWI

There were over 50 individuals logged on to the Zoom call. Participants who called in or who were not identified on the Zoom log may not be included in the list above.

**Meeting Notes**

**For a complete record of the meeting, please refer to the recordings that are posted on APIPP’s website.**

* APIPP Presentation
* AWI Presentation
* **USDA APHIS Presentation**

Welcome and Introductions

* Tammara Van Ryn welcomed participants with a reading from *Over the Mountain and Home Again* by Edward Kantz. She then reviewed the agenda for the meeting.
* Tammara provided an overview of APIPP’s summer season and outreach and education efforts. She thanked partners for helping with the distribution of the new outreach materials and recognized Emily-Bell Dinan for creating such compelling designs. She also highlighted the creation of new boot brush stations. Tammara provided a summary of APIPP’s 11 summer and fall education events, which included 541 attendees and involved 12 partner organizations

APIPP Summer Field Results Program

* Becca Bernacki provided an overview of APIPP’s terrestrial invasive species field season results. She shared highlights of the work performed by the terrestrial early detection and rapid response (EDRR) team, invasive species management stewards, program staff and others.
* Becca provided an overview of the Knotweed Management Partnership that works to control invasive knotweed on private properties. Over 115 sites were treated in 2021.
* Becca highlighted the following species of interest.
	+ Japanese Stiltgrass. The first infestation of this species in the Adirondack PRISM was detected this September. It was promptly treated by APIPP’s EDRR team.
	+ Japanese Tree Lilac. This is a commonly planted ornamental tree that is capable of escaping cultivation. Five naturalized infestations were mapped this season.
	+ Tree-of-Heaven. This species is not widely distributed in the APIPP PRISM and is a target for eradication. It is a preferred host for the invasive spotted lanternfly. Seven sites were treated in 2021.
	+ Giant Hogweed. APIPP inspected all 16 historic sites in the Adirondack PRISM. Six sites had plants present this season and were treated.
	+ Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). APIPP deployed five EAB traps, and one trap confirmed a new EAB infestation. APIPP established five Monitoring and Managing for Ash (MaMA) plots to search for lingering ash.
	+ Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA). APIPP performed the second year of HWA treatment on Dome Island in Lake George; 515 trees were treated via basal bark spray and 71 via injection.
	+ Box Tree Moth. The first confirmed finding of this moth in New York occurred this year in Niagara County. Be on the lookout!
* Brian Greene provided an overview of APIPP’s aquatic invasive species (AIS) monitoring program, which includes efforts by partners, an early detection team, lake protector volunteers, and lake management tracker participants.
* This was the twentieth season of the volunteer lake monitoring program; 101 lakes were adopted for monitoring.
* APIPP’s early detection team, contracted through Adirondack Research, surveyed lakes in the southeastern Adirondacks. The team monitored 51 lakes.
* APIPP received 34 lake monitoring reports from volunteers, 45 from partners, and 51 from Adirondack Research. In total, 130 reports were received for 109 lakes.
	+ 22% of reports noted the waterbody contained AIS
	+ There were no new reports of water chestnut or Tier 1 species
* This was the fourthyear of the lake management tracker program, which is used on lakes known to be invaded by AIS where management is or will occur. Seven lakes participated and volunteers collected over 1,600 observations.
* Brian concluded his season summary by extending a thank you to all of the partners and volunteers that are part of the monitoring network.

APIPP Strategic Plan Interview Summary and Next Steps

* Karen Strong, principal of Strong Outcomes, provided an introduction and overview of APIPP’s strategic planning process. She polled partner meeting participants on their experience and opinions related to strategic planning. Karen emphasized there will be opportunities for partner input throughout the process, and she provided an overview of the process that will unfold between now and summer 2022.

Break

Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI) Summer Field Results and Recent Research

* Eric Paul provided an overview of AWI’s watercraft inspection steward program including the program’s history, training protocol, and preliminary 2021 data. The most common species the program’s stewards intercept are Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM), variable-leaf watermilfoil (VLM) and curly-leaf pondweed. In 2021, approximately 85,000 boats were inspected, 2,227 (2.6%) of which contained AIS. A total of 2,506 AIS were detected, and 3,702 decontaminations were performed.
* Michale Glennon presented her recent research project, “Pathways of Invasion: recreational boater activity, aquatic invasive species distribution and landscape level connectivity to inform management and prevention in New York State.” The goal of the project is to allocate AIS spread-prevention measures more efficiently by quantifying the axes of invasion risk and potential pathways of introduction.
* Michale noted the project focused on two main questions.
* Which lakes are most vulnerable due to boating intensity?
	+ The project evaluated geographical/physical, aesthetic/impairment, and amenity information for lakes.
	+ Motorboat activity was best predicted by lake area, distance to an interstate, and the presence of a marina.
* Which lakes are vulnerable because conditions are favorable to AIS establishment?
	+ The project evaluated geographic/physical, ecological, and human use/impact.
	+ EWM is best predicted by longitude, connected waters, and native plant community richness.
	+ VLM is best predicted by the number of upstream invaded waters, lake amenities, and native plant community richness.

Emerald Ash Borer Biocontrol Update

* Sawyer Gardner presented on USDA APHIS’s EAB biocontrol program. She provided an overview of the three parasitoid wasps that are being evaluated for biocontrol effectiveness, including *S. galinae*, *T. planipennisi* (larval parasitoid), and *O. agrili* (an egg parasitoid). Sawyer provided maps of EAB biocontrol release sites in areas surrounding the Adirondack Park.

Next Steps

* Tammara concluded the meeting and noted that the documentary, “Uninvited,” will be screened tomorrow, November 5. She sincerely thanked participants and reminded partners to register for the February 2022 aquatic and/or terrestrial roundtables.
	+ [Aquatic Roundtable (Feb 10)](https://adkinvasives.com/Events/Detail/134)
	+ [Terrestrial Roundtable (Feb 8)](https://adkinvasives.com/Events/Detail/133)