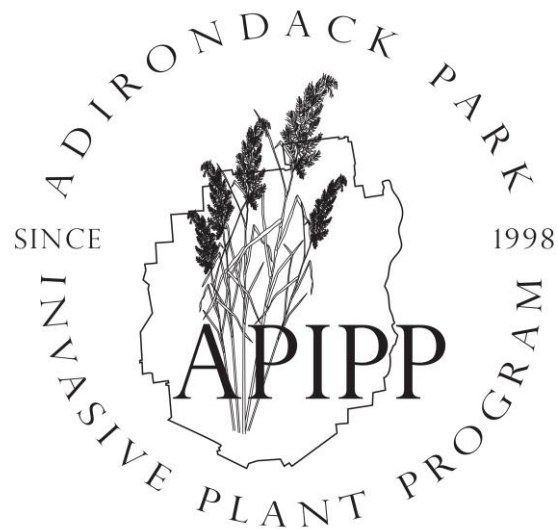


# **Adirondack Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management**

## **Annual Work Plan**



**2014**

The Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) work plan is aligned with the Strategic Plan for the Adirondack Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM). The work plan outlines ongoing activities and special projects in which PRISM staff and partners are involved. Though prepared at the onset of the calendar year, the document may be adapted based on the needs in the PRISM throughout the course of the year.

## **APIPP PRISM STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

- A. Coordination
- B. Pathway Analysis
- C. Spread Prevention and Vector Management
- D. Enforcement and Legislation
- E. Education and Outreach
- F. Early Detection, Rapid Response, and Monitoring
- G. Control and Management
- H. Information Management
- I. Restoration
- J. Research
- K. Climate Change Adaptation
- L. Resource Development and Funding

## **Coordination**

### **General Actions**

- Finalize APIPP contract renewal.
- Recruit, interview, hire, train and supervise APIPP AIS Project Coordinator and Invasive Species Management Intern.
- Organize and facilitate biannual principal partner meetings and bi-monthly (or as needed) Adirondack Aquatic Invasive Species Committee meetings.
- Continue serving as a resource for partner and community inquiries regarding invasive species.
- Upgrade website, and maintain the PRISM list-serve and blog.
- Develop and distribute 2014 Work Plan and Annual Report.
- Distribute two newsletters.
- Participate in monthly PRISM conference calls and quarterly PRISM leader calls, and coordinate PRISM activities and Strategic Plan implementation with other NY PRISMs.
- Continue to represent PRISMs on, and Chair, Invasive Species Advisory Committee
- Integrate invasive species priorities and activities into local, watershed, and regional planning initiatives, such as the Economic Development Councils, Cleaner Greener Sustainability Planning, and ADK Futures etc.
- Investigate new ways of reaching new audiences and meeting Plan goals and objectives utilizing social media.

- Consider renewing PRISM Cooperative Agreement (after signing of new 5-year contract).
- Collaborate with CCE and partners to work with communities to prepare community preparedness plans for IS, specifically emerald ash borer, for local towns and villages.
- Participate in efforts to build a network of partners that will identify opportunities to promote forest pest issues and effective solutions, coordinate implementation, research and monitoring and transfer lessons learned.

## **Pathway Analysis**

- Focus on recreational boating, gardeners, and transportation corridors.

## **Spread Prevention and Vector Management**

### **General Actions**

- Provide guidance to partners, citizens, local governments, agencies etc. on invasive species prevention practices/policies, as opportunities arise and as requested.
- Identify prevention plans for primary invasive species pathways in the region.
- Collaborate with business sector on best practices.

### **Aquatic Actions**

- Continue working with partners to expand the boat launch stewardship program.
- Finalize report on the role of recreational watercraft inspection and decontamination in an integrated aquatic invasive species prevention strategy in the region.
- Participate in DEC Operations training to review talking points and guidance on AIS and watercraft inspections at campgrounds.
- Assist communities with implementation of spread prevention plans for spiny waterflea, Asian clam and other aquatic invasives.
- Participate in events where spread prevention measures can be employed, eg. 90-Miler Canoe Race.
- Support spread prevention programs on the Champlain Canal, as needed.

### **Terrestrial Actions**

- In collaboration with DOT and interested partners, continue to offer outreach and training strategy to state and local highway departments.
- Conduct prevention surveys at Five Ponds Wilderness Area Invasive Species Prevention Zone.

## **Enforcement and Legislation**

- Help raise awareness about new state invasive species regulations including the Invasive Species Prevention Act and Aquatic Invasive Species Control at State Boat Launches and Fishing Access Site
- As requested, provide information to local governments regarding local transport laws.
- Provide information as needed/requested on a statewide aquatic transport law.

## **Education and Outreach**

### **General Actions**

- Offer presentations, as requested.
- Develop new publications, as requested/needed/able.
- Complete communications strategy.
- Promote New York Invasive Species Awareness Week.
- Submit bi-weekly invasive species columns to the Adirondack Daily Enterprise and Adirondack Express during the field season.
- Offer training in special topic of interest for partners, if desired.
- Utilize media to feature invasive species success stories.
- Explore opportunities for multi-media public service announcements.
- Distribute brochures: Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program, Invasive Plants of the Adirondacks, Invasive Animals of the Adirondacks. Distribute poster: “You can make a difference, help stop the spread of invasive species.”
- Respond to inquiries from partners or the general public about invasive species identification and/or management practices.
- Support the development of a statewide invasive species awareness / education campaign to engage residents and visitors of all ages.

### **Aquatic Actions**

- Attend environmental education activities and programs as they are scheduled throughout the region, eg. Waterfest.
- Participate in Paul Smith’s Adirondack Watershed Institute Watershed Stewardship Program trainings for Lake and Volunteer Stewards.
- Continue to collaborate with DEC to ensure that signage at boat launches that designates infected waters in the Adirondacks is current.
- Offer presentations / trainings to lake associations, as requested.

### **Terrestrial Actions**

- Offer at least one training session to the general public on terrestrial invasive species identification and best management practices.
- In collaboration with state partners, assist education and outreach efforts for giant hogweed and feral swine.
- As requested/needed, offer presentations or trainings to interested groups.
- Distribute invasive plant notice door-hangers to private landowners.
- Collaborate with the Essex County Adirondack Garden Club on developing Plantwise ADK and offering other education and outreach opportunities to gardeners and nurseries.
- Identify opportunities to raise awareness in areas with swallow-wort.
- Facilitate local participation in emerald ash borer awareness week/forest pest awareness month.

## **Early Detection, Rapid Response, and Monitoring**

### **General Actions**

- Maintain comprehensive list of invasive species in the PRISM.
- Conduct distribution analyses related to vectors, environmental conditions, and the likelihood of spread of invasive species currently in the PRISM and monitor high risk areas.
- Formalize an AIS Rapid Response Protocol, in coordination with state, regional, and national rapid response plan development, and using the Lake Champlain Rapid Response Protocol as a model.
- Implement Year 4 of the aquatic response team and institute a stop-gap year of management in lieu of terrestrial response team.
- Utilize the APIPP PRISM Early Detection Species Check-List to track reports of new species to the region (template prepared by Steve Young, LIISMA).
- Collaborate with PRISM Leaders on developing standardized process for PRISM level EDRR.
- Continue long-term post-treatment monitoring at select sites to ensure the efficacy of management actions, including assessments of native and invasive plant recovery.

### **Aquatic Actions**

- Coordinate the Aquatic Plant Volunteer monitoring program and update training materials as necessary. Organize two aquatic invasive plant identification and survey trainings.
- Offer one aquatic invasive animal identification and survey training and continue to establish baseline distribution data via new volunteer monitoring protocols.
- Collaborate with partners and volunteers to implement spiny waterflea and Asian clam volunteer monitoring protocols.
- Assist Lake George Asian Clam Rapid Response Task Force in planning and implementation, as needed.
- Identify priority waterbodies to survey utilizing GIS and other relevant resources.

### **Terrestrial Actions**

- Train and supervise the APIPP Invasive Species Management Steward, Student Conservation Association team members, and NYSDEC's invasive species campground specialist.
- Conduct ED surveys and mapping for priority terrestrial invasive plant species in priority areas.
- Monitor previous year's management sites for signs of regrowth in order to address further management needs.
- Facilitate elevated forest pest surveillance by partners and landowners. As needed, assist DEC, Department of Agriculture and Markets, and USDA with early detection surveillance for emerald ash borer and Asian longhorn beetle, or other priority forest pests.

## **Control and Management**

### **General Actions**

- Develop list of contractors to perform invasive plant management.

### **Aquatic Actions**

- Track existing priority eradication projects including Grasse River, Follensby Clear Pond, Paradox Lake, Lake Placid, Fulton Chain of Lakes and Lake George.
- Implement year 8 of hand-harvesting European frog-bit from the Grasse River.

### **Terrestrial Actions**

- Review latest research to stay informed about current best management practices for priority species and update APIPP's terrestrial best management practices guidelines.
- Implement BMP's on priority sites and track progress using GIS-based Weed Information Management System and photo documentation.
- Continue site-specific elimination efforts of black swallow-wort infestations along Boquet River in Elizabethtown, along the shores of Lake Champlain, and at the Ticonderoga Paper Mill in Essex County; yellow iris located within natural areas; giant hogweed populations in the Adirondacks; and, new, small, isolated infestations of common reed, purple loosestrife, garlic mustard, and Japanese knotweed affecting natural areas.
- Orchestrate, submit, and supervise all necessary site workplans and AANR permits for management actions on forest preserve, APA wetland permits, and DOT highway work permits.
- As requested/needed, identify opportunities for volunteer groups to assist in inventory and management projects.
- As needed, assist DEC, Department of Agriculture and Markets, and USDA with surveillance and trapping of feral swine
- Serve as technical and ed/outreach liaison for and lend support to community-based ED/RR and management efforts including but not limited to the following projects:
  - Regional Inlet Invasive Plant Program (Doug Johnson)
  - Elizabethtown Swallow-wort Control Project (BRASS)
  - Paul Smith's College Watershed Steward Project (Eric Holmlund)
  - Fish Hatchery Japanese Knotweed (Guy Middleton)

## **Information Management**

- Use WIMS (Weed Information Management System) to track terrestrial invasive plant distribution and treatment data
- Use iMapInvasives as repository for the Adirondack invasive species data; also contribute data to Adirondack Regional GIS Consortium
- Use GIS to analyze terrestrial and aquatic species distribution trends in the PRISM.
- Maintain current invasive species distribution maps for the region.
- Host iMap training session(s) and promote partner and public use of iMap.

## **Restoration**

- No activities planned for this year.

## **Research**

- Conduct economic impact analysis on the actual and potential costs of invasive species to the Adirondack Park economy.
- Collaborate with the NY Invasive Species Research Institute.

## **Climate Change Adaptation**

- No activities planned for this year.

## **Resource Development and Funding**

- Compile costs of plan implementation.
- Develop a case statement for regional invasive species programming.
- Develop fundraising plan and seek funding to support priority activities.

## PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

April 29	APIPP Spring Partner Meeting
May 2-4	NYS Federation of Lake Association Annual Conference – AIS Session
May 14-15	Adirondack Research Consortium Annual Conference
May 16-18	Paddlefest (Old Forge)
May 19-23	Watershed Stewardship Training – Paul Smiths
June 12	Adirondack Park Agency – Boat Inspection/Decontamination Presentation
June 20-22	Adirondack SUP Festival
June 24	Aquatic Invasive Plant Identification Volunteer Training – Bolton Landing
June 26	Aquatic Invasive Plant Identification Volunteer Training – Paul Smiths
July 1	Terrestrial Invasive Plant Management Training for Landowners
July 6-12	New York Invasive Species Awareness Week
July 8	Balsam and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Symposium – Indian Lake
July 29	Aquatic Invasive Animal Identification Volunteer Training
Sept. 5-7	Adirondack Canoe Classic – 90-Miler
Oct. 28	APIPP Fall Partner Meeting
Nov 17-20	Cornell Cooperative Extension In-service Training Workshop

Other events and activities will be added throughout the season.

The APIPP full partnership meets in the spring and fall. The Adirondack Aquatic Invasive Species Committee meets on average every other month or as needed.

Monthly PRISM Conference Calls, last Wednesday of every month, 11-12, email Leslie Surprenant [ljsurpre@gw.dec.state.ny.us] to be added to the notification list.

Hiatus during July, August, and December.