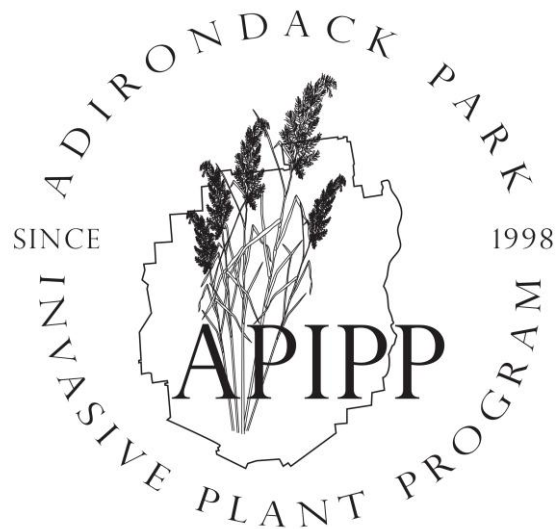


Adirondack Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management

Annual Work Plan



2016

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 needs identified 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 Surveillance
- G. Ongoing Management
- H. Information Management
- I. Restoration
- J. Research
- K. Climate Change Adaptation
- L. Resource Development and Funding

Coordination

General Actions

- Organize and facilitate biannual principal partner meetings and as needed Adirondack Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Committee meetings.
- Organize and facilitate Adirondack AIS Prevention Program advisory committee meetings as needed.
- Continue serving as a resource for partner and community inquiries regarding invasive species.
- Maintain APIPP's website, PRISM list-serve and summer blog.
- Develop and distribute 2016 Work Plan and Annual Report.
- 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 participate in Invasive Species Advisory Committee meetings as needed.
- Integrate invasive species priorities and activities into local, watershed, and regional planning initiatives taken on by organizations such as the Adirondack Common Ground Alliance and Regional Watershed Coalitions.
- Revisit/Renew PRISM Cooperative Agreement as needed.
- Participate in efforts to build the network of partners that will identify opportunities to promote invasive species issues and effective solutions, coordinate implementation, research and monitoring and transfer lessons learned.

- Serve as expert liaison and advisor for community based invasive species programming in the region including the Regional Inlet Invasive Plant Program, Bolton Terrestrial Invasive Plant Program, Lake Associations, etc.
- Prioritize species, conservation areas, and management projects in order to increase program's effectiveness and attain the highest conservation returns for the region. Share results and priority setting process with partners to encourage consistencies in approach.
- Recruit and hire APIPP's 2016 Seasonal Invasive Species Educator.

Pathway Analysis

- Focus intervention efforts on priority human pathways of invasive species spread including recreational boating, hiking and camping, use of invasive ornamentals in gardening/plantings, and maintenance of transportation corridors.
- As needed assist in intervention efforts surrounding other known pathways affecting the region including firewood transport, canals, the pet trade, etc.
- As new species arrive to the PRISM reassess pathways for spread and intervention priorities.

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 and advance prevention plans for priority invasive species pathways in the region.

Aquatic Actions

- Continue working with partners to expand state, regional and local boat launch stewardship programs.
- In collaboration with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Adirondack AIS Prevention Program advisory committee, design, promote, and implement an Adirondack AIS Spread Prevention Program that relies on expanded boat launch steward coverage and the strategic placement of boat wash and decontamination infrastructure.
- As needed and requested, participate in DEC staff trainings to review talking points and guidance on AIS prevention and watercraft inspections at campground boat launches and other facilities.
- Assist communities with implementation of spread prevention plans for spiny waterflea, Asian clam and other priority small-bodied AIS.
- As needed and requested participate in events where AIS spread prevention measures can be employed such as at fishing tournaments, canoe races, etc.
- As needed, support AIS spread prevention efforts on the Champlain Canal and St. Lawrence River.

Terrestrial Actions

- In collaboration with the New York State Department of Transportation, provide trainings to staff on how road maintenance activities can inadvertently spread terrestrial

invasive plants, the impacts of these plants on the right of way and surrounding habitat and invasive plant best management practices. Continue to offer similar outreach and training strategies to other state and local highway departments as needed.

- Provide trainings and resources on alternatives to ornamental invasive plants to homeowners, landscapers and gardeners.
- As needed and requested, participate in DEC staff trainings to review terrestrial invasive plant identification and management practices for campgrounds, trailheads and other facilities.
- Supervise the work of DEC's Invasive Species Campground Specialist to prevent the spread of terrestrial invasive plants from DEC campgrounds and trailheads.

Enforcement and Legislation

- Help raise awareness about state invasive species regulations including the Invasive Species Prevention Act, Statewide AIS Transport Law, AIS Control at State Boat Launches and Fishing Access Sites, Eurasian Boar Legislation and Firewood Transport Law.
- As requested, provide information to local governments regarding local AIS transport laws.

Education and Outreach

General Actions

- Develop work plan for APIPP's 2016 Seasonal Invasive Species Educator.
- In collaboration with Behan Communications, finalize APIPP's 5-year strategic communications and marketing plan and begin implementation.
- In collaboration with the iMapInvasives program, host at least 1 training on using iMap to collect data and report invasive species infestations.
- Offer presentations and trainings on invasive species related topics to specific audiences as requested.
- Develop new invasive species related publications and educational materials as requested/needed/able.
- Participate in and promote New York Invasive Species Awareness Week.
- Utilize summer blog and email list-serve to feature invasive species related stories.
- Distribute brochures: Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program, Invasive Plants of the Adirondacks, Invasive Animals of the Adirondacks.
- Respond to inquiries from partners or the general public about invasive species prevention, identification, management practices, etc.
- Support the development and implementation of a statewide invasive species awareness/education campaign to engage residents and visitors of all ages.

Aquatic Actions

- Help promote AIS prevention and the Adirondack AIS Prevention Program through billboards, signage, radio spots, rack cards etc.
- Offer at least 3 aquatic invasive plant identification and survey trainings.
- Offer at least 1 aquatic invasive animal identification and survey training.

- In collaboration with the ADK Mountain Club, host at least 1 backcountry water monitoring training.
- Attend, table, and/or present at environmental education activities and programs as they are scheduled throughout the region such as conservation field days, Waterfest and Paddlefest.
- Participate in and present at the Paul Smith's Adirondack Watershed Institute Stewardship Program trainings for boat launch stewards.
- Continue to collaborate with DEC to ensure that AIS prevention signage at boat launches is present, current and consistent.
- In collaboration with West Field Production Company, finalize two AIS prevention and surveillance training videos to be made available to partners on APIPP's website.

Terrestrial Actions

- Offer at least three training sessions to the general public on terrestrial invasive species identification and best management practices.
- In collaboration with the ADK Mountain Club host an Adirondack Forest Pest Summit during New York State Invasive Species Awareness Week.
- In collaboration with the ADK Mountain Club host at least 1 backcountry forest pest monitoring training.
- In collaboration with state and federal partners, assist education and outreach efforts surrounding giant hogweed and feral swine.
- Distribute invasive plant notice door-hangers and invasive plant management guidelines to private landowners.
- Collaborate with the Adirondack Garden Club to disseminate Plantwise ADK brochures and offer other education and outreach opportunities to gardeners, nurseries, landscapers and ornamental plant distributors.
- Identify opportunities to raise awareness in communities currently being impacted by priority invasive species such as swallow-wort, Japanese knotweed, and common reed.
- In collaboration with West Field Production Company, finalize two invasive plant management training videos to be made available to partners on APIPP's website.

Early Detection, Rapid Response, and Surveillance

General Actions

- Maintain a comprehensive list of invasive species currently present in the PRISM.
- Maintain comprehensive lists of target and watched species in the PRISM in order to prioritize surveillance and management actions.
- Conduct invasive species distribution analyses related to vectors, environmental conditions, and the likelihood of spread and survey high invasion risk areas.

Aquatic Actions

- Implement second year of AIS regional response team approach and, as needed, respond to new, small or isolated infestations of target and watched species.
- Coordinate the aquatic invasive plant volunteer survey program and update training materials as necessary.
- In collaboration with the ADK Mountain Club advance the second year of the backcountry water monitoring program.

- Collaborate with partners and volunteers to implement spiny waterflea and Asian clam volunteer survey protocols in order to establish baseline, regional distribution data for priority aquatic invasive animals.
- Assist the Lake George Asian Clam Rapid Response Task Force in planning and implementation, as needed.
- Identify priority water bodies to survey for target and watched AIS utilizing GIS, predictive models and other relevant resources.

Terrestrial Actions

- Implement year 5 of the terrestrial invasive species regional response team approach and, as needed, respond to new, small or isolated infestations of target and watched species
- Conduct early detection surveys and mapping for target and watched terrestrial invasive plant species in priority and high risk areas.
- In collaboration with the Adirondack Mountain Club, implement the second year of the backcountry forest pest monitoring program.
- As requested/needed, identify opportunities for volunteer groups to assist in survey projects.
- Incorporate remote sensing technology using an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) to survey for target and watched terrestrial invasive species in priority and high risk areas.

Ongoing Management

General Actions

- Review latest research and update APIPP's invasive plant best management practices (BMPs) as needed.
- Evaluate effectiveness of management actions and adapt approaches as needed.
- Orchestrate, submit, and supervise all necessary site work plans and permits in order for management actions to take place.
- Maintain list of local contractors that perform invasive plant management.

Aquatic Actions

- Track progress of historic AIS management projects taken on by staff and partners on the Grasse River, Follensby Clear Pond, Paradox Lake, Lake Placid, Fulton Chain of Lakes, Upper Saranac Lake, Chateaugay Lake, Lake Luzerne, Lake George, etc.
- Assess likelihood of success and implement BMPs for AIS management projects through staff and regional response team.
- Implement year 10 of hand-harvesting European frog-bit from the Grasse River.

Terrestrial Actions

- Utilizing staff and the terrestrial regional response team, implement BMPs on priority sites and track progress with mobile monitoring systems and photo documentation.
- Train, supervise and set work plans for Student Conservation Association management crews and DEC's invasive species campground specialist.
- Continue site-specific elimination efforts of black and pale swallow-wort infestations along the Boquet River in Elizabethtown and along Farr Road in Forestport and all known giant hogweed infestations in the PRISM.

- Continue managing new, small, or isolated infestations of common reed, purple loosestrife, garlic mustard, yellow iris, oriental bittersweet and Japanese knotweed affecting natural areas or having high spread potential.
- As requested/needed, identify opportunities for volunteer groups to assist in management projects.
- As needed, assist DEC, Department of Agriculture and Markets, and USDA with surveillance and management of feral swine and forest pests.
- Serve as technical liaison and lend support to community-based management efforts including but not limited to the following projects:
 - Regional Inlet Invasive Plant Program
 - Bolton Terrestrial Invasive Plant Program

Information Management

- Use mobile monitoring systems and geographic information systems to track terrestrial and aquatic invasive plant distribution and management data.
- Use iMapInvasives as a repository for Adirondack invasive species data.
- Analyze data to develop terrestrial and aquatic species distribution and management 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

- Continue to assess restoration needs and native plant recovery through long-term monitoring of historic management sites.

Research

- In collaboration with Cornell University pursue publication of APIPP's phragmites management results spanning from 2010 to 2015.
- In collaboration with The Nature Conservancy and the New York State Invasive Species Research Institute, advance a student-lead graduate research project studying the interactions between the spread of invasive species and climate change in New York
- In collaboration with Union College pursue publication of APIPP's garlic mustard management and monitoring results in the town of Ohio.
- Continue to share findings from recently finalized reports "The Actual and Potential Economic Impact of Invasive Species on the Adirondack Park: A Preliminary Assessment" and "Boat Inspection and Decontamination for AIS Prevention."
- Continue to provide research priorities to the New York State Invasive Species Research Institute as needed.

Climate Change Adaptation

- In collaboration with The Nature Conservancy and the New York State Invasive Species Research Institute, advance a student-lead graduate research project studying the interactions between the spread of invasive species and climate change in New York.

Resource Development and Funding

- Compile costs of plan implementation.
- Seek additional funding as necessary to support priority activities.

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

April 28	APIPP Spring Partner Meeting - Ray brook
May 12	APA Monthly Board Meeting, APIPP Update - Ray brook
May 20	iMap Invasives Training - Newcomb
May 24 & 25	Watershed Stewardship Training – Paul Smiths
June 4	ADK Backcountry Water Monitoring Training - Albany
June 29	Terrestrial Invasive Plant Management Training – Clifton/Fine
July 10-16	New York Invasive Species Awareness Week
July 11	Adirondack Forest Pest Summit – North Creek
July 15	Terrestrial Invasive Plant Management Training - Speculator
July 19	Common Ground Alliance Forum, Invasive Species Session – Old Forge
July 30	ADK Backcountry Water Monitoring Training – Lake Placid
Oct. 27	APIPP Fall Partner Meeting - Ray brook
Nov. TBD	Annual Invasive Species In-service at Cornell - Ithaca

Other events and activities will be added throughout the season.

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.