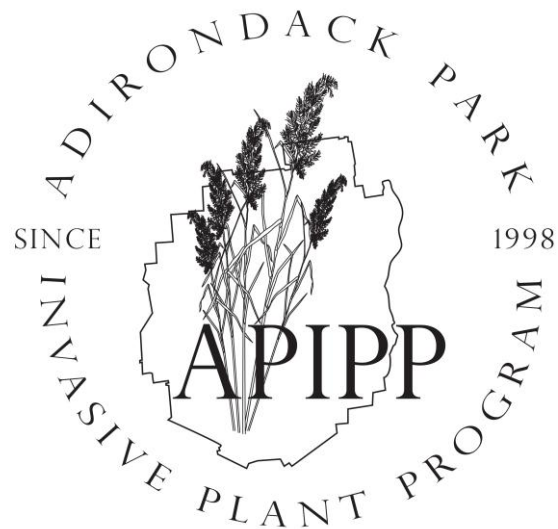


# **Adirondack Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management**

## **Annual Work Plan**



**2015**

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**

- Recruit, interview, hire, train and supervise APIPP Terrestrial Invasive Species Project Coordinator and Seasonal Invasive Species Educator.
- Organize and facilitate biannual principal partner meetings and as needed Adirondack Aquatic Invasive Species Committee meetings.
- Continue serving as a resource for partner and community inquiries regarding invasive species.
- Maintain APIPP's website, PRISM list-serve and seasonal blog.
- Develop and distribute 2015 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 participate in Invasive Species Advisory Committee meetings
- 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

- 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.
- 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.

## **Pathway Analysis**

- Focus intervention efforts on priority pathways of recreational boating, invasive ornamental plantings, and transportation corridors.
- As needed assist in intervention efforts surrounding firewood transport, canals, the pet trade, etc.

## **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.
- In collaboration with NYSDEC, the Paul Smith's College Adirondack Watershed Institute, Lake Champlain Basin Program, environmental advocacy groups, local governments, etc. design, promote, and implement an Adirondack Park-wide Aquatic Invasive Species Spread Prevention Pilot Program that relies on an expanded boat launch steward program and the strategic placement on new boat wash and decontamination infrastructure.
- As needed, participate in DEC operations staff trainings 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 invasive species.
- As needed, participate in events where AIS spread prevention measures can be employed, eg. 90-Miler Canoe Race.
- As needed, support spread prevention programs on the Champlain Canal.

### **Terrestrial Actions**

- In collaboration with DOT provide a training webinar to state operations staff on the impacts of terrestrial invasive plants on the right of way and their best management practices. Continue to offer other outreach and training strategies 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, Statewide Aquatic Invasive Species Transport Law, Aquatic Invasive Species Control at State Boat Launches and Fishing Access Sites, and Eurasian Boar legislation
- As requested, provide information to local governments regarding local transport laws.

## **Education and Outreach**

### **General Actions**

- Develop APIPP's Seasonal Invasive Species Educator workplan.
- Offer presentations on invasive species related topics to specific audiences, as requested.
- Offer trainings on invasive species related topics for interested partners.
- Develop new invasive species related publications, as requested/needed/able.
- Complete communications strategy.
- Promote New York Invasive Species Awareness Week.
- Promote Adirondack Park-wide Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Pilot Program
- Utilize media to feature invasive species related stories.
- Underwrite North Country Public Radio to broadcast APIPP and invasive species related messages.
- 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 and implementation of a statewide invasive species awareness / education campaign to engage residents and visitors of all ages.

### **Aquatic Actions**

- Offer at least 3 aquatic invasive plant identification and survey trainings.
- Offer at least 1 aquatic invasive animal identification and survey training.
- 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 designate infected waters in the Adirondacks is current and consistent.

### **Terrestrial Actions**

- Offer at least three 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.
- Distribute invasive plant notice door-hangers to private landowners.
- Collaborate with the Essex County Adirondack Garden Club to disseminate Plantwise ADK brochures and offer other education and outreach opportunities to gardeners, nurseries and ornamental plant distributors.
- Identify opportunities to raise awareness in communities being affected by priority invasive species such as swallow-wort, Japanese knotweed, and common reed.
- 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 invasion risk areas.
- 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 monitoring at select management sites to ensure the efficacy of management actions and assess native plant recovery.

### **Aquatic Actions**

- Finalize an AIS Rapid Response Protocol for the Adirondack PRISM, in coordination with state, regional, and national rapid response plan development, and using the Lake Champlain Rapid Response Protocol as a model.
- Implement first year of AIS regional response team approach
- Coordinate the Aquatic Plant Volunteer monitoring program and update training materials as necessary.
- Collaborate with partners and volunteers to implement spiny waterflea and Asian clam volunteer monitoring protocols.
- Continue to establish baseline distribution data for aquatic invasive animals via new volunteer monitoring protocols.
- Assist Lake George Asian Clam Rapid Response Task Force in planning and implementation, as needed.
- Identify priority waterbodies to survey for AIS utilizing GIS and other relevant resources.

### **Terrestrial Actions**

- Implement year 4 of terrestrial invasive species regional response team approach
- Train and supervise Student Conservation Association crews 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.
- In collaboration with the Adirondack Mountain Club, implement a Forest Pest Backcountry Monitors Program. Facilitate elevated forest pest surveillance by other 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**

- Maintain list of local contractors that perform invasive plant management.

### **Aquatic Actions**

- Track progress of historic priority management projects including Grasse River, Follensby Clear Pond, Paradox Lake, Lake Placid, Fulton Chain of Lakes and Lake George.
- Assess and implement new AIS infestation management projects through regional response team.
- 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, the iMap Invasives Field Data Collection Tool, and photo documentation.
- Continue site-specific elimination efforts of black and pale swallow-wort infestations along the Boquet River in Elizabethtown and along Farr Road in Forestport; yellow iris infestations affecting natural areas; all giant hogweed infestations in the PRISM; and, new, small, or 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)
  - Bolton Terrestrial Invasive Plant Program (Anne Green)
  - Elizabethtown Swallow-wort Control Project (BRASS)
  - Paul Smith's College Watershed Steward Independent Projects (Eric Holmlund)
  - Fish Hatchery Japanese Knotweed (Guy Middleton)

## **Information Management**

- Use WIMS (Weed Information Management System), the iMap Invasives Field Data Collection Tool, and Geographic Information Systems to track terrestrial and aquatic invasive plant distribution and management data
- Use iMapInvasives as a repository for the Adirondack invasive species data; also contribute data to Adirondack Regional GIS Consortium as needed
- Use GIS to analyze 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**

- No activities planned for this year.

## **Research**

- 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 Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention.”
- 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

March 21	Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies – Regional Response Team present.
March 28	Backcountry Monitors Training for Adirondack Forest Pests
April 16	Local Government Day – Presentation on Economic Report
April 24	Aquatic Invasive Species Steering Committee Meeting
April 28	APIPP Spring Partner Meeting
May 1-2	NYS Federation of Lake Association Annual Conference – AIS session
May 13-14	Adirondack Research Consortium Annual Conference
May 14	Adirondack Park Agency – APIPP Update Presentation
May 15-17	Paddlefest (Old Forge)
May 28	iMap Invasives Training
May 26–29	International Assoc. for Great Lakes Research Conference – AIS session
May TBD	Watershed Stewardship Training – Paul Smiths
June 23	Aquatic Invasive Plant Identification Volunteer Training – Bolton Landing
June 25	Aquatic Invasive Plant Identification Volunteer Training – Paul Smiths
June 30	Aquatic Invasive Plant Identification Volunteer Training – TBD
July 12-18	New York Invasive Species Awareness Week
July 25	AIS Floating Classroom on Paradox Lake
July 28	Adirondack Lakes Alliance Inaugural Symposium – Paul Smiths
Sept. 11-13	Adirondack Canoe Classic – 90-Miler
Oct. 27	APIPP Fall Partner Meeting
Nov. TBD	Annual Invasive Species In-service at Cornell

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 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.