EDDMapS
EDDMapS, the Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System, is an innovative program in which volunteers can help detect invasive plant invaders’ arrival and dispersal in their own local areas. Volunteers trained on the use of EDDMapS will be working throughout Georgia to help collect data on invasive species and enter the data into the EDDMapS database through a web-based data entry form. The intent of this training is to empower the public to become actively involved in order to more effectively slow the spread of harmful invasive species and reduce their environmental and economic damage.

EDDMapS has been implemented for use by both the Southeast and the Georgia Exotic Pest Plant Councils. It was designed as a tool for state EPPCs to develop more complete local, state and regional level distribution data of invasive species. Identification of “leading edge” ranges of new invasive threats allows implementation of EDRR (Early Detection and Rapid Response) programs. Data on invasive species contributed by volunteers helps corroborate threats to the diversity of Georgia's native plants and animals. Refinement of invasive plant lists and management priorities can be updated regularly as new data is recorded. Your participation in this initiative will not only benefit Georgia, but will also contribute to national efforts to map the distribution and spread of invasive species.

EDDMapS Volunteer
As a volunteer for EDDMapS the following Information Modules will be available to you:
1. Identification and reporting of invasive species.
2. How to conduct surveys in the field to observe, collect and record data on targeted invasive species.
3. How to use GPS and digital cameras to confirm location and identification of targeted species.
4. How to use the web to post data and images to an online database.
5. Access to EDDMapS database on invasive species.