

Development & Activities of the Hawkeye CWMA in Eastern Iowa



Chris Henze
MIPN Iowa Representative
President- Hawkeye CWMA

HAWKEYE CWMA IN EASTERN IOWA



What led to the development of the Hawkeye CWMA?



UGA2106098

Invite potential Partners to a
CWMA meeting. Promise
attendee's cooperation, money,
equipment, and....



What Happened Next?

- Explain problem of Invasive Species and how they are effecting Partners' management areas
- Identify most problematic species
- Identify financial partners (RC & D)
- Focus on what you want to accomplish
 - Education, field days, etc.
 - Grant Funding
 - Creation of an MOU & Vision Statement
- Form a Steering Committee





**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Rock Island District



IOWA VALLEY RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT



Invasive Species Field Days & Workshops



Hawkeye Cooperative Weed Management Area

INVASIVE SPECIES

Field Day • June 11, 2009

Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center
10260 Morris Hills Road • Toddville, IA 52341
Managed by the Linn County Conservation Board

Agenda will include:

- Potential Impacts of 2008 Floods on Iowa's Natural Resources
- Woodland Management and the Use of Prescribed Fire in Woodlands
- Wetland Beautification & Selecting Native Plants for your Home Landscape
- Identification & Management of Invasive Plants in Prairies
- Water Infiltration & the Establishment of Backyard Rain Gardens
- Iowa's Living Roadway Trust Fund
- Weed Seed Free Forage & Mulch Certification Program
- Identification and Management of Invasive Plants in Woodlands
- An Overview of Browsing and Grazing to Restore Natural Areas

For more information go to:
www.extension.iastate.edu/linn

There is no charge for this program; however, lunch is provided, so please make reservations by Noon June 9th (Tuesday). Register online at www.LinnCountyParks.com by clicking on the "Events" area or call (319) 893-6450.

WOODLAND INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES EVENT

Presented by the Hawkeye Cooperative Weed Management Area

9:00—10:30 am SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24th, 2009

Join Iowa DNR District Forester, Mark Vitosh, and USACE Natural Resource Manager, Mary Sue Bowers, for a walk in the woods at Linder Point Campground as we discuss the identification and control of the invasive plant species you may be experiencing in your own backyard.

This event is free and open to the public.



What are WOODLAND INVASIVE SPECIES?
They are typically transplants from distant places, that threaten native woodlands in Iowa.

Why are they a problem?

- They have a variety of survival strategies that enable them to out-compete and replace native species
- Insects and birds that rely on native species are also displaced as invasives take over
- They can alter entire ecosystems by changing soil chemistry or hydrological processes.
- They cause a heavy economic toll. On a national level, invasive species are costing Americans approximately \$140 billion annually in tax dollars spent on control, lost recreation, health hazards, and decreased land values.

Sponsors



The Hawkeye Cooperative Weed Management Area (HCWMA) is a collective group of county, state, and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations and community associations who have come together to combat the invasive species problem in Eastern Iowa. The HCWMA serves Benton, Johnson, Linn, and Louisa Counties and is open to all interested parties. The term CWMA, or Cooperative Weed Management Area, refers to a local organization that integrates invasive species management resources across jurisdictional boundaries in order to benefit entire regions.



Funding (\$\$)- what we're all after!!!

- USDA *Forest Health Initiative* Grant- received in 2009 and applied again in 2010
- National Fish & Wildlife Foundation's-
Pulling Together Initiative- applied in 2010
- Equipment and Resource Cache
- Donations from local business'

HAWKEYECWMA.ORG



COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT AREA

[HOME](#) [ABOUT](#) [NOX WEEDS](#) [CALENDAR](#) [EDUCATIONAL](#) [FAQ](#) [CONTACT US](#)



NEWS: June 10th, 2010. Invasive Species Field Day. [View the poster](#) for more information. Also check out the [Calendar](#) for updated events as they occur.

Mission Statement

Reduce the impact of invasive species in Eastern Iowa through cooperative education, demonstration and restoration.

Vision Statement

Guiding Eastern Iowan's to manage invasive species.

Why You Should Worry About Weeds?

According to Iowa rules and statutes, noxious weeds are plants that are injurious to public health, the environment, public roads, crops, livestock, and other property. These noxious and invasive plants cause annual economic losses in the billions of dollars for agriculture, natural resources management agencies, and road departments.

Besides the damage to crops, livestock, and range and pasture land, invasive plants are considered to be one of the main causes of native plant and animal extinction. They reduce diversity of native species, degrade habitat and food for wildlife, change plant communities, and alter natural fire regimes. They are also known to prevent establishment of native seedlings, including trees and shrubs, shade out understory plants, out-compete desirable plants for nutrients, moisture, space, and sunlight, and change soil structure and chemistry. Some can be deadly to pets and humans.

By controlling noxious weeds, especially when infestations are small, economic losses can be mitigated, property values and wildlife habitat increased, and the likelihood of illness or injury to humans or livestock



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Invasive species frequently asked questions

Are "exotic species" the same as "invasive species" or "harmful exotic species"?

Species that have been introduced, or moved, by human activities to a location where they do not naturally occur are termed "exotic," "nonnative," "alien," and "nonindigenous." Conversely, "native" describes a species living in an area where it is found naturally. An exotic species is not necessarily harmful, in fact the majority have beneficial purposes. When a non-native species invades lands or waters "particularly natural communities" causing ecological or economic problems, it is termed "invasive." The terms "harmful exotic species," "plant pest," "pest plant," "nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species," and "non-native invasive species" are all groups of nonnative invasive species.

What problems do invasive species cause?

A number of invasive plants and animal species have been severe world-wide agents of habitat alteration and degradation, and competition for native species. They are the major cause of biological diversity loss throughout the world, and are considered "biological pollutants." Their populations can often rapidly increase allowing them to disrupt native plant communities and crowd out native species. By changing habitat, they can also affect species beyond those they may directly displace. They can cause problems for those who use natural resources, whether for recreational use of land or waters or industrial use of public waters. Once established, invasive species rarely can be eliminated.

How do invasive species move from their natural range to new, distant places?

There are many pathways of introduction that move species from their natural range to new, distant places. Most introductions are the result of human activities. Some introductions, such as common carp, [buckthorn](#), and [purple loosestrife](#), were intentional and have caused unexpected damage. Many exotic introductions are unintentional. Species are carried on barges, boats and trailers, animals, vehicles, commercial goods, packing materials, produce, footwear or clothing, and in ballast water of ships. Ships take on ballast water in other countries for stability during the ocean crossing. This water is pumped out when the ships pick up their loads in Great Lakes ports. Many of the species, such as [zebra mussel](#), [ruffe](#), and [spiny water flea](#) arrived in the Great Lakes this way. But they are now being spread throughout the continent's interior in and on boats and through other recreational activities.

What characteristics make invasive species a problem?

There are many characteristics of invasive species. The more a species may possess, the more it is likely to be widespread and troublesome. Here are a few:

Productivity: More seeds mean more seedlings. [Purple loosestrife](#) and [white and yellow sweet clovers](#) produce hundreds of thousands of seeds per plant. Invasive animals are often very prolific as well. The [zebra mussel](#) can produce up to one million eggs per year. [Round goby](#), can spawn several times per summer.

Dispersal: Invasive plants often have seeds or other propagules that are easily spread by people, wind, water, or wildlife. They can establish in new locations far from their parent plants. [Eurasian watermilfoil](#) fragments can be carried on boats and trailers to new locations. [Buckthorns](#) and [honeysuckle](#) berries are eaten by birds, which later deposited where they fly. [Siberian elm](#) seeds are able to ride the wind far and wide. [Purple loosestrife](#) seeds can be carried by wind and water.

Growth period or seasonal advantages: [Buckthorns](#), when planted in North America, leaf out early in the spring and stay green long after most deciduous trees and shrubs turn color and drop leaves. Buckthorn's longer growing season means faster growth to maturity, an advantage over native shrubs.

Lack of natural controls: When a species is transferred to a new location outside its natural range, the insects, diseases, or other pests that help control it may be left behind.

Boot Brush Stations at trailheads at State & County Parks

- USDA Grant Funding received for 10 stations
- Funding for an additional 10 stations applied for



Invasive Species of Concern

The following is a partial list of the species the HCWMA is currently focusing on.



Japanese Knotweed in Bloom

- ▲ Autumn Olive
- ▲ Barberry
- ▲ Bush Honeysuckle
- ▲ Canada Thistle
- ▲ Garlic Mustard
- ▲ Japanese Knotweed
- ▲ Oriental Bittersweet
- ▲ Purple Loosestrife
- ▲ Pampas Grass
- ▲ Reed Canary Grass
- ▲ Teasel

Current Partners

Conservation Boards for:
Benton, Johnson, Linn, & Louisa Counties
Johnson County RVM
Johnson County Heritage Trust
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Iowa Valley RC&D
The Nature Conservancy
US Army Corps of Engineers
US Fish and Wildlife Service

Other partners will be added as the effort grows!

Links

<http://www.iwnp.org>
<http://www.iowadnr.com/forestry/invasive.html>
<http://iowaweeds.sodaviv.edu/wims.html>
<http://www.invasives.org/>
<http://www.johnson-county.com/secondaryroads/WeedComm/NoxiousWeeds.shtml>

Contact Us!

Chris Henza, Johnson County Weed Commissioner: (319) 356-6046
weedcommissioner@co.johnson.iowa.us

Hawkeye Cooperative Weed Management Area



Garlic Mustard in Bloom

The Concept of a Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)

The term CWMA, or Cooperative Weed Management Area, refers to a local organization that integrates invasive species management resources across jurisdictional boundaries in order to benefit entire regions.

Who We Are

The HCWMA (Hawkeye Cooperative Weed Management Area) is a collective group of county, state, and federal agencies, non-profit organizations and community associations who have come together to combat the invasive species problem in Eastern Iowa. The HCWMA serves Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Linn, and Louisa Counties and is open to all interested parties.

Creation of Hawkeye CWMA Brochures

- Helps Spread the Word about HCWMA
- Locate Potential Partners
- Publicize Management Efforts
- Educate Landowners

Invasive Species: What they are and why they are a problem

- They are typically transplants from distant places.
- They have a variety of survival strategies that enable them to out-compete and replace native species.
- Insects and birds that rely on native species are also displaced as invasives take over.
- They can alter entire ecosystems by changing soil chemistry or hydrological processes.
- They cause a heavy economic toll. On a national level, invasive species are costing Americans approximately \$140 billion annually in tax dollars spent on control, lost recreation, health hazards, and decreased land values.



Oriental Bittersweet
Woodland Invader

What the HCWMA Does

Our primary objectives are:

1. To prevent new invaders from taking hold in our area.
We raise awareness of the invasive species issue through brochures, posters and educational seminars in the community. We help people understand the ways that they can prevent the spread of invasive species through mechanisms like checking shoes, packs and pets for seeds as they move from one natural area to another.
2. To control new and invading species that have appeared on our landscapes.
We work to identify and eradicate species new to our area or that have been identified as invasive in other parts of the country. We don't want someone else's problem to become our own. We provide guidance on control methods.
3. To contain and manage existing populations that have already become established.

We will work together and do what we can to remove established populations. We help each other with identifying best management strategies and provide hands on help to get the job done. We also keep careful records of the work we do to help track progress in our management efforts.

Purple Loosestrife
Wetland Invader



How YOU can get involved!

You probably are already part of the team! Anyone who has dug out a thistle in a backyard or pulled a weed off a boat trailer has made a contribution to reducing the spread of invasive species in our community.

If you want to work on the invasive species issue within your backyard:

- Stop the spread of seeds from one area to another by cleaning clothes, shoes, pets and equipment.
- Learn about new and existing invaders to the area.
- Remove and destroy invasive species from your property.
- Plant non-invasive species and consider native plants when landscaping.

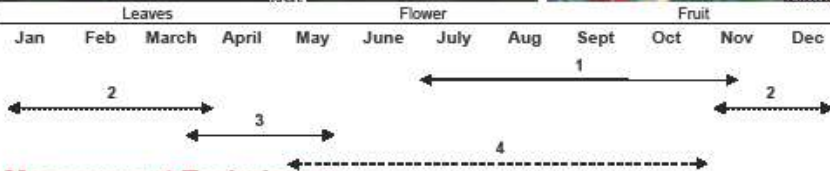
If you want to work on the invasive species issue in your community:

- Make recommendations for non-invasive plantings in community, church or business gardens.
- Spread the word to your neighbors—their invasive species problem could soon be your own!
- Volunteer to help with control work in local natural areas. Make these efforts part of community service projects.

If you want to be a part of the HCWMA:

- Contact us! There is no cost to participate and all are welcome.

Creation of Invasive Species Management Brochures



Management Techniques

- (July-dormancy) Stump treat. Cut the autumn olive to the ground and immediately treat the stump with the appropriate herbicide within 15 minutes. Wipe solution on the cut with a small sponge-tipped bottle or paintbrush. This is especially effective when done July-September. *This is your best option. This should be followed with technique 3 annually.*
 - 50% Glyphosate solution (10%-20% solution has been effective) (if temp. is between 40°F and 80°F)
 - 25% Triclopyr solution (if temp. is between 30°F and 80°F)
- (Dormant season) Basal bark treatments. Using a handheld sprayer line herbicide around the base of the plant 8-12 inches from the ground. *This technique needs to be completed several years in a row and should be followed with technique 3 annually.*
 - 25% Triclopyr solution (if temp. is between 60°F and 80°F)
- (Spring) Pull first year seedlings out of the ground while the soil is soft. Make sure to remove all of the root system. *technique 4 should be used on any remaining plants.*
- (May-October) Foliar spray. Apply herbicide to leaves using a sprayer. In general, this technique will have a deeper root-kill if used in the fall, but can be used to top kill the plant in the spring and summer. *This should be followed with technique 2.*
 - 2% Glyphosate solution (non-selective) (if temp. is between 40°F and 80°F)
 - 2% Triclopyr solution (selective for broadleaf plants) and a 0.5% surfactant (if temp. is between 30°F and 80°F).
 - 0.2% (28 oz per 100 gallons) Transline® and a small amount of water based dye.

*FIRE IS **NOT** RECOMMENDED AS A MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUE FOR ESTABLISHED STANDS*

For More Information Visit:

<http://www.HawkeyeCWMA.org>

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW PESTICIDE LABELS.

Proper training for prescribed fires is highly recommended.

Basic training can be found online at <http://training.nwcg.gov/courses/s130.html> and <http://training.nwcg.gov/courses/s190.html>

Related Websites:

<http://www.iowadnr.com/forestry/invasive.html>
<http://plants.usda.gov>
www.invasivespecies.gov
www.nps.gov/plants/alien

Mention of any trade names is for the convenience of the reader and does not imply any endorsement by the Hawkeye CWMA

Credits:

Photographs: Mark Vitosh, IDNR; Mary Sue Bowers, USACE; US Fish and Wildlife; Courtney Janiak, Boston Globe; Joseph Austin, Austin, TX; www.bugwood.org

Brochure Created By: Sarah Chmielewski 12/09

Last updated: 10/25/2010



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Funding for this brochure provided by the US Forest Service through a Healthy Forest Incentive Grant.

Autumn Olive

Elaeagnus umbellata



A SERIOUS THREAT
To
Iowa's Natural Areas

Autumn Olive Management Brochure

What is Autumn Olive?

- Non-native woody shrub.
- Introduced from China, Korea and Japan in the 1830s as an ornamental shrub.
- Planted to reclaim mine lands and for wildlife habitat.



Line Drawing of Autumn Olive

What is the Threat to Iowa?

- Has no natural growth controls.
- Resprouts vigorously after fires.
- Is a threat to both open and semi open areas.
- Adaptable to a variety of soils and is drought resistant.
- Produces lots of fruits that are quickly dispersed by wildlife.
- Prevents light from getting to native plants.
- Highway plantings draw birds close to high-speed traffic.
- Interferes with the nitrogen cycle of native communities.
- Came to the U.S. without natural predators.

What does Autumn Olive Look Like?

Identifying traits: Bushy plant that can grow up to 20 feet tall. Oblong leaves are silver on the bottom. Stems have a silver tint and thorns. Fruit is red at maturity. After three years of growth the plant can flower and produce fruit.

Young plants:

The young plants look like smaller versions of the mature ones. The stems are smaller and shorter, and the root system is much easier to remove. As they mature the stems get thicker and becomes much more like a shrub.



Older bark: As the shrub gets older the bark begins to split and crack. This starts at the base and works its way up.

Leaves: The 1 inch wide leaves are oblong, smooth edged, and have a silvery sheen, with a dotted underside. They are arranged alternately on the stems.



Fruits: When the fruits first appear they are silver and then turn red upon maturity. These plants can produce up to 8 pounds of fruits a year

Flowers: The flowers are produced in great numbers in the leaf axils during May. They are fragrant, silvery yellow, tubular, and are 1/2 inch long.



Another potential problem in Iowa: Russian Olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)

History:

Russian Olive is native to Europe and Western Asia. Was introduced to North America in the late 1800's. It has been used to reclaim mine lands and as wildlife habitat.

Similar Characteristics:

The 1/2 inch leaves are alternate on both olive varieties. The stems are slightly thorny. There are small yellowish flowers on both of the plants.

Differences from Autumn Olive:

Russian Olive grows to a maximum height of 35 feet. The fruits grow singularly, while the fruit of Autumn Olive cluster together. Fruits of Russian Olive are green to yellow, compared to the silver to red fruit of Autumn Olive. Also both sides of the mature leaves of Russian Olive have a silver sheen to them.



Russian Olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)

Native Alternatives:

Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*)



This shrub tolerates poor, wet, polluted, and shaded soil. It has eye-appealing and fragrant leaves and flowers in the Fall. The fruit attracts birds and the stems are browsed by deer and beavers. The oil from this plant has been used in medicines, eye-washes, after shave, and salves for soothing insect bites, burns, and poison ivy rashes.

Downy Arrowwood (*Viburnum rafinesquianum*)



This 3-8 foot tall shrub produces brilliant purple berries in the summer and early fall. The shrub can grow in dry or mesic soils, transplants well, is disease and insect tolerant, and has medium drought tolerance. The fruit attracts birds and small mammals.

Additional Invasive Species Brochures Created

- Teasel
- Japanese Knotweed
- Yellow/White Sweet Clover
- Bush Honeysuckles
- Oriental Bittersweet
- Wild Parsnip
- Canada Thistle
- Reed Canary Grass



Forest Reclamation



Forest Reclamation

- Habitat Forever (PF)
- Contracted for removal of invasives on 4 sites on IDNR/Conservation Board properties
- 50/50 Cost shared with USDA Forest Health Grant
- Sites will be revegetated to native grasses, trees and shrubs using prescribed burning, herbicides, etc.





www.hawkeyecwma.org

www.iowaweedcommissioners.org

www.iowalivingroadway.com

The End!

Thank you!!!