

2016 New York Invasive Species Awareness Week FACT SHEET



<p>What is NY ISAW?</p>	<p>The mission of the New York Invasive Species Awareness Week (ISAW) is to promote knowledge and understanding of invasive species and the harm they can cause by engaging citizens in a wide range of activities across the state, and empowering them to take action to help stop the spread.</p> <p>ISAW is comprised of various outreach initiatives and events led by partner organizations across the state. Activities include interpretive walks, invasive plant removal and restoration projects, displays, webinars, radio programming, and more.</p>
<p>When is NY ISAW?</p>	<p>The third annual NY ISAW is July 10 – 16, 2016. Visit www.nyis.info/blog/events for event times and locations.</p>
<p>What is an invasive species?</p>	<p>An invasive species is a non-native species (plant, animal, insect, or disease) that is accidentally or intentionally introduced and causes harm, or has the potential to cause harm, to the environment, the economy, or human health.</p>
<p>Why are invasive species a problem?</p>	<p>Invasive species cause harm because of their ability to reproduce quickly, outcompete native species, and adapt to new environments. Because invasive species did not evolve with the other species in their new location, they often do not have natural predators and diseases that would normally control their population within their native habitat.</p> <p>Economists estimate that invasive species cost the United States more than \$120 billion in damages every year.</p>
<p>Which invasive species are of concern in NY?</p>	<p>NY has a number of invasive plants, animals and diseases. Visit www.nyis.info, http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/265.html or http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/PI/PIHome.html for specific species information.</p>
<p>What can the public do to make a difference?</p>	<p>1) Take simple steps to prevent invasive species from spreading: Clean, drain and dry watercraft and gear after exiting a waterway; Don't move firewood - use local firewood; Garden and landscape with native plants. 2) Learn to identify invasive species of local concern. 3) Report invasive species sightings to http://www.nyimainvasives.org/report-an-invasive. 4) Get involved in the local PRISM.</p>
<p>What is a PRISM?</p>	<p>A PRISM is a Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management. Eight PRISMs are established across the state. PRISMs are coordinated groups of organizations and engaged citizens working together to prevent and manage invasive species.</p>

<p>Where can I find out more information?</p>	<p>A list of additional links and resources is provided at http://www.nyis.info/blog/resources/.</p>
<p>Who do I contact for more information?</p>	<p><u>NY Invasive Species Council, Co-Chairs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Press Office, Lori Severino, Lori.Severino@dec.ny.gov, (518) 402-8000 • NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, Press Office, Jola Szubielski, Jola.Szubielski@agriculture.ny.gov, (518) 457-0752 <p><u>NY Invasive Species Advisory Committee, Chair:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meredith Taylor, NYC Department of Environmental Protection, Invasive Species Biologist, metaylor@dep.nyc.gov, (845) 340-7856 <p><u>Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM), Coordinators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program, Brendan Quirion, bquirion@tnc.org, (518) 576-2082 • Capital Mohawk PRISM, Laurel Gailor, lrg6@cornell.edu, (518) 885-8995 • Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership, John Thompson, jthompson@catskillcenter.org, (845) 586-2611 • Finger Lakes PRISM, Hilary Mosher, mosher@hws.edu, (315) 781-4385 • Long Island Invasive Species Management Area, Steve Young, steve.young@dec.ny.gov, (518) 402-8951 • Lower Hudson PRISM, Linda Rohleder, lrohleder@nynjtc.org, (201) 512-9348 ex. 821 • St. Lawrence and Eastern Lake Ontario PRISM, Rob Williams, rwilliams@tnc.org, (315) 387-3600 • Western New York PRISM, Andrea Locke, lockeas@buffalostate.edu, (716) 878-4708 <p><u>2016 ISAW Chair:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dept. of Environmental Conservation Invasive Species Education & Outreach Coordinator, Megan Phillips, Megan.Phillips@dec.ny.gov, (518) 402 8871