

Invasive Species Threats to Minnesota

Invasive species are non-native plants, animals, and pathogens that cause environmental damage, economic loss, or harm to human health. These pests displace native species, harm habitats, and degrade natural, managed, and agricultural landscapes.

Minnesota is presently battling many invasive pests including common carp, glossy buckthorn, purple loosestrife, and sea lamprey shown in this calender. There are also many new invasive species that could arrive and cause problems. The list of numerous potential invaders includes Asian longhorned beetle, soybean rust, bighead carp, silver carp, hydrilla, and kudzu.

In addition to harming the recreational value of our natural resources, invasive pests pose serious economic threats to major Minnesota industries such as agriculture, tourism, and forestry. Nationwide, some estimates peg the economic damage of invasive pests at more than \$100 billion a year.

Public awareness and ongoing action are keys to preventing the spread of invasive species. Please use the information in this calender to help inform Minnesotans about the invasive species problem and what they can do to take action in the challenge to reduce invasive species spread and harm.

STATE of MINNESOTA

WHEREAS:

Invasive plant and animal species that are not native to Minnesota harm our valuable state resources, threaten outdoor recreation opportunities, increase costs for industry and agriculture, and diminish the natural heritage of significant sites such as national parks, state parks, and public and private natural areas; and

WHEREAS:

Invasive plants and animals such as the zebra mussel, soybean aphid, Eurasian watermilfoil, garlic mustard, European buckthorn, and purple loosestrife are displacing native species, harming habitats, and degrading natural, managed, and

WHEREAS:

Numerous new invasive species such as gypsy moth, silver carp, and emerald ash borer could arrive and cause further economic and environmental harm; and

WHEREAS:

The State, under the leadership of the Minnesota Invasive Species Advisory Council, is developing a statewide invasive species management plan to respond to these

WHEREAS:

The Council is holding a workshop in October to identify actions under each of the plan's key elements: preventing new introductions, early detection and rapid response, managing infestations, and leadership and coordination; and

WHEREAS:

While progress continues to occur in the above elements, the problem of invasive species is perpetual and requires on-going action by Minnesotans; and

WHEREAS:

Invasive Species Awareness Month is an opportunity for government to join forces with community, business, industry, conservation, and recreation groups to raise awareness and take action against the introduction and spread of invasive species.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM PAWLENTY, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of

INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 28th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and five, and of the State the one



Minnesota Invasive Species **Advisory Council**

This calendar was produced and distributed by the Minnesota Invasive Species Advisory Council (MISAC). MISAC is a statewide entity formed in response to Presidential Executive Order 13112 on invasive species and the national Invasive Species Management Plan that encouraged states to plan and take action on invasive species.

The purposes of MISAC are:

- to facilitate statewide coordination and cooperation on invasive species - including the review of information concerning the current status, management, and spread of terrestrial and aquatic invasive insect, plant, animal, and pathogen species into and within Minnesota;
- to work cooperatively to prevent new introductions, identify and locate invasive species;
- to contain established introductions; to manage invasions and take other actions in order to minimize invasive species impacts within Minnesota; and
- to address these and other existing needs by maximizing available resources.

MISAC's co-chairs, from the Minnesota Departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources, represent the state agencies that are responsible for coordinating the management of invasive species in the state. In addition, the Council includes these members: Bailey Nurseries, Hennepin County Environmental Services, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, Minnesota Crop Improvement Association, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota Farm Bureau, Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association, Minnesota Native Plant Society, Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association, Minnesota Sea Grant, The Nature Conservancy, Superior National Forest, USDA-APHIS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, University of Minnesota-College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences and the College of Natural Resources.

Help Report Locations of **Invasive Species**

One of the keys for a rapid response to invasive species is the early identification of new occurrences. Please help report occurrences of invasive species in Minnesota at the following:

- MISAC Web site at: www.mda.state.mn.us/misac/ for a copy of the MISAC reporting form.
- "Arrest the Pest" Hotline at: (651) 201-MOTH (metro) or 1-888-545-MOTH (toll free). Please call the hotline to report suspicious pest species arriving on plants or articles from foreign countries or other states and for the latest updates on invasive species such as the gypsy moth, soybean rust, sudden oak death, Asian longhorned beetle, emerald ash borer, bark beetles, and other destructive insect, plant, and disease pest species.
- DNR Invasive Species Program at: (651) 259-5100 (metro) or 1-888-MINN-DNR (elsewhere) to report invasive aquatic plants or wild animals such as Eurasian water milfoil, zebra mussels, Asian carp, round goby, non-native deer, swans and mute swans.



































Common Carp Cyprinus carpio



Common Carp (German carp, European carp) Cyprinus carpio

Species: A large omnivorous fish in the minnow family.

Origin: Native to Europe and Asia, it was intentionally introduced into Minnesota waters as a game fish in the 1880s.

Impacts: Their feeding activity disrupts shallowly rooted plants and suspends bottom sediments, muddying the water and releasing phosphorus, increasing the growth of algae. As water clarity is reduced, aquatic plants needed by other species for food and cover also decline.

Status: They are distributed in hundreds of waters in the southern two-thirds, and a few waters in the northern third of Minnesota.

Where to look: They live in lakes, rivers, and wetlands and are often seen in spring when they spawn in shallow waters.

Regulatory classification (agency):

Common carp is a regulated invasive species (DNR).

Means of spread: Spread has occurred due to its incidental inclusion in live bait and the connection of waters.

How can people help? Avoid spreading carp to other waters. Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash – don't release it into new waters.

Further information: Contact DNR Fish and Wildlife or the University of Minnesota.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Mute Swan Cygnus olor



Mute Swan

Cygnus olor

Species: A large white species of waterfowl.

Origin: Native to Europe and Asia, they were brought to the United States from the mid-1800s through the early 1900s and escaped.

Impacts: Mute swans are very aggressive even toward people. They chase water birds including loons, and can keep those birds from nesting. One bird can uproot about 20 pounds of submersed aquatic vegetation daily.

Status: Up to 29 have been reported annually in the wild in Minnesota, however, populations in the Great Lakes states are increasing about 10 to 20% annually.

Where to look: They are found on lakes and wetlands.

Regulatory classification (agency):

It is a regulated invasive species and an unprotected species (DNR). Mute swans must be kept confined in Minnesota and those in possession of these birds must have a game farm license.

Means of spread: They move by escape from captivity, intentional release on ponds for ornamental purposes, and have sometimes been used as ineffective and illegal means to deter geese from an area.

How can people help? Report observations to the DNR. Don't release mute swans into the wild.

Further information: Contact the DNR Invasive Species Program.

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20 Presidents' Day	21	22 Washington's Birthday	23	24	25
26 National Invasive Weed Awareness Week Begins	27	28				

Asian Longhorned Beetle Anoplophora glabripennis



Asian Longhorned Beetle Anoplophora glabripennis

Species: A large longhorned beetle.

Origin: Native to China, Korea, and Japan. It was introduced into the U.S. via infested wooden pallets and crating.

Impacts: The larval stage tunnels into the wood of many common tree species including maple, poplar, elm, and birch. Heavily infested trees may die.

Status: It was initially reported in the New York City area in 1996. Since then, it has also been found in Chicago, New Jersey, and around Toronto. The Chicago populations appear to have been eradicated.

Where to look: Watch for the large distinctive beetles in the summer months. Infested trees have large round exit holes.

Regulatory classification (agency): It is a federally quarantined pest (USDA-APHIS).

Means of spread: It is spread by transport of infested wooden pallets, crating, and firewood.

How can people help? Report any suspicious beetles and unusual tree decline or mortality.

Further information: Visit www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/ep/alb/.

SUNDAY	SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY									
			1	2	3	4				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
12	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18				
19	20 Spring Begins	21	22	23	24	25				
26	27	28	29	30	31					

Leafy Spurge Euphorbia esula



Leafy Spurge Euphorbia esula

Species: A, deep-rooted, perennial plant.

Origin: It is native to Europe and parts of Asia and was introduced to Minnesota in the late 1800s as a contaminant of wool.

Impacts: Leafy spurge forms large monocultures, decreases biological diversity, and degrades grazing lands. This plant is known to be toxic to horses and cattle.

Status: It is present in 75 Minnesota counties.

Where to look: It is found in gravel pits, pastures, CRP, prairies and other grasslands, and along roadsides and other rights-of-ways. Look in late May and early June when it is easy to locate during peak flowering.

Regulatory classification (agency):

It is a prohibited noxious weed in Minnesota (MDA).

Means of spread: It is often spread by seed and cut pieces in hay, by roadside mowing, and on farm equipment.

How can people help? Contact your county agricultural inspector to determine the best management option.

Further information: Contact the MDA Weed Integrated Pest Management Project or visit www. mda.state.mn.us/weedcontrol/ lsmodule/.

SUNDAY	Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Saturday
						1 April Fool's Day
2 Daylight Savings Time Begins	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Easter	17	18	19	20	21	22 Earth Day
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

New Zealand Mudsnail Potamopyrgus antipodarum



New Zealand Mudsnail

Potamopyrgus antipodarum

Species: A tiny snail that reproduces asexually and bears live young.

Origin: Native to New Zealand, it was accidentally introduced with imported rainbow trout in Idaho in the 1980s.

Impacts: Densities can reach 100,000 to 500,000 per square meter. They outcompete species that are important forage for native trout and other fishes and provide no nutrition to fish that eat them.

Status: First discovered in the late 1980s in the Snake, Idaho, and Madison rivers, they quickly spread to other western rivers. They were discovered in Lake Ontario, and later in Thunder Bay, Lake Superior in 2001.

Where to look: Look on docks, rocks, and other hard surfaces along the shorelines of lakes, rivers, and streams.

Regulatory classification (agency): It is proposed as a prohibited invasive species (DNR).

Means of spread: They likely spread by attaching to recreational fishing gear, research equipment, or in fish shipments.

How can people help? Inspect and remove visible animals, plants, and mud from waders, recreational fishing equipment, research gear, and other field equipment. Rinse everything with 120° F water or dry equipment in heat or sun for several hours. Report suspected infestations.

Further information: Contact the U of M Sea Grant Program – Aquatic Invasive Species Information Center.

ŞUN	DAY MONDAY	Tuesday	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Mother's	Day 15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day Observed	30	31			

Wild Parsnip Pastinaca sativa



Wild Parsnip

Pastinaca sativa

Species: A perennial forb.

Origin: It is native to Europe and Asia.

Impacts: In the presence of sunlight, the sap of wild parsnip can cause a rash, blistering, and discoloration of the skin (phytophotodermatitis).

Status: Wild parsnip is found mainly in southeastern and central Minnesota, although it is spreading to other parts of the state.

Where to look: Wild parsnip readily invades open disturbed habitats such as streambanks, roadsides, and old fields.

Regulatory classification: It is not a regulated pest.

Means of spread: Seeds are small and light and can be transported by wind, water, wildlife, mowing equipment, etc.

How can people help? Remove wild parsnip, especially near areas with high human activity, such as walking trails.

Management information: For management recommendations, visit www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialplants/herbaceous/wildparsnip.html.

SUNDAY	Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Flag Day	15	16	17
18 Father's Day	19	20	21 Summer Begins	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Purple Loosestrife Lythrum salicaria



Purple Loosestrife

Lythrum salicaria

Species: An emergent perennial forb.

Origin: It is native to Europe and Asia and has been used as an ornamental in North America.

Impacts: Purple loosestrife invades marshes and lakeshores, replacing cattails and other wetland plants. The plant can form dense, impenetrable stands, which are unsuitable as cover, food, or nesting sites for a wide range of native wetland animals. Rare and endangered wetland plants and animals are also at risk.

Status: There are more than 2,000 known loosestrife infestations in 68 Minnesota counties.

Where to look: Look for purple loosestrife in any wet habitat including wetlands, lakeshores, stream banks, ditches, and roadsides.

Regulatory classification (agency):

Purple loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria, L. virgatum and any combination thereof) is listed as a prohibited noxious weed (MDA) and a prohibited invasive species (DNR).

Means of spread: It is distributed mainly by seed in water, or by animals in their feathers or fur.

How can people help? Report new small infestations to the DNR.

Management information: For management recommendations, visit www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticplants/purpleloosestrife/index.html.

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29

Asian Soybean Rust Phakopsora pachyrhizi



Asian Soybean Rust

Phakopsora pachyrhizi

Species: A fungal disease that affects more than 30 species of legumes.

Origin: Soybean rust was first found in the United States in Louisiana in November of 2004, and was probably carried to the U.S. by Hurricane Ivan.

Impacts: Severe yield reductions of up to 70% have been documented

Status: Soybean rust is established in the southeastern part of the U.S. primarily on wild kudzu and soybeans. (It is an obligate parasite and needs living host material to survive. Temperatures below 28° F will effectively eliminate the pathogen from northern soybean areas.)

Where to look: Look for it on the underside of soybean leaves, primarily on the lower parts of the plant.

Regulatory classification (agency): Soybean rust is not regulated due to its wind borne capacity for dispersal.

Means of spread: The spores are carried by wind and deposited by rain or air deposition.

How can people help?

Scout fields regularly. Submit leaves with suspicious symptoms to the U of M diagnostics clinic.

Further information: Contact the MDA Invasive Species Program.

SUNDAY	Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Flowering Rush Butomus umbellatus



Flowering Rush Butomus umbellatus

Species: A perennial aquatic plant that grows in both emergent and submersed forms.

Origin: It is native to Europe and Asia and was first noted in Minnesota in 1968.

Impacts: Dense stands of flowering rush may impede water recreational activities, such as swimming and boating.

Status: Flowering rush is established in at least 15 lakes and rivers in Minnesota.

Where to look: It is found on shore, near shore, and shallow areas – less than 10 feet deep – of lakes and rivers.

Regulatory classification (agency): It is a prohibited invasive species (DNR).

Means of spread: The plant spreads primarily vegetatively from thick rhizomes and small tubers that break off, and also from small bulblets that form in the flowerhead; these parts drift within a body of water and could be incidentally trasported to others.

How can people help? Report new locations. Remove all aquatic plants before transporting boats and equipment from one waterbody to another.

Further information: Contact the DNR Invasive Species Program.

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6	7	8	9
10 Grandparents' Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Fall Begins
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Grecian Foxglove Digitalis lanata



Grecian Foxglove

Digitalis lanata

Species: A broadleaf biennial plant.

Origin: It is native to scrub oak forests of southeastern Europe and was introduced as an ornamental plant.

Impacts: Grecian foxglove produces digitalis, a cardiac stimulant that can be toxic or fatal to livestock and humans if ingested or if it comes in contact with human skin.

Status: It escaped from cultivation and currently is found in eastern Washington County.

Where to look: It grows best in well-drained, loamy-sand soils in sunny locations.

Regulatory classification (agency):

It is listed as a secondary noxious weed in Minnesota (MDA and counties).

Means of spread: Seeds develop in hooked pods that may attach to clothing or animal fur and can be transported long distances.

How can people help? Don't plant as an ornamental. Report infestations to MDA. Hand-pull wearing rubber gloves, mow, or treat with herbicide.

Further information: Contact the MDA Invasive Species Program.

SUNDAY	Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Daylight Savings Time Ends	30	31 Halloween				

Glossy Buckthorn Frangula alnus



Glossy Buckthorn Frangula alnus

Species: A shrub or small tree.

Origin: It is native to Europe.

Impacts: Buckthorn outcompetes native plants for nutrients, light, and moisture and degrades wildlife habitat. It contributes to erosion by shading out other plants that grow on the forest floor. It lacks "natural controls" like insects or disease that would curb its growth.

Status: Glossy buckthorn became established in Minnesota in the 1930s, and is found statewide.

Where to look: It grows in the forest understory or along forest edges and can invade wet areas including bogs, fens, and sedge meadows.

Regulatory classification (agency): Buckthorn is a *restricted noxious weed* in Minnesota (MDA and counties).

Means of spread: Seeds are eaten by birds and deposited in new locations. Buckthorn was once sold as an ornamental plant.

How can people help? Remove buckthorn from your property; replace it with native plant species.

Management information: For management recommendations, visit www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialplants/woody/buckthorn/control.html.

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY				
			1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans' Day		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30				

Sea Lamprey Petromyzon marinus



Sea Lamprey Petromyzon marinus

Species: A primitive eel-like fish that, as adults, feed on blood and tissue of many fish species.

Origin: Native to the Atlantic Ocean, Lake Ontario, and the St. Lawrence River, it was first found in Minnesota waters of Lake Superior in 1946.

Impacts: The most devastating invader of the Great Lakes, adult sea lamprey kill 85% of the fish they attack. They parasitize large sport and commercial fishes. Anglers might see wounds or scars on sportfish they catch.

Status: A U.S. and Canadian control program using lampricides, barriers, trapping and biological control has successfully reduced sea lamprey populations in the Great Lakes by 90%.

Where to look: Each spring, adults migrate upstream in tributaries of the Great Lakes where spawning pairs may be observed making nests.

Regulatory classification (agency):

It is a prohibited invasive species (DNR).

Means of spread: It entered the other Great Lakes via the canals that bypassed natural barriers.

How can people help? Don't transport to new waters. Report findings in inland waters (Note: five native lamprey species exist in the state. See www.gen.umn.edu/ research/fish/fishes/default.htm or www.wiscfish.org/fishid/frames.aspx).

Further information: Contact the U of M Sea Grant Program - Aquatic Invasive Species Information Center or DNR Invasive Species Program.

SUNDAY	Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Winter Begins	23
24 31	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30

For information about invasive species in Minnesota, contact:

Aquatic Plants and Animals Minnesota Department of Natural Resources-Invasive Species Program (651) 259-5100

University of Minnesota-Sea Grant-Aquatic Invasive Species Information Center (218) 726-8712

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (612) 713-5114

Terrestrial Plants and InsectsMinnesota Department of
Agriculture-Invasive Species Unit
(651) 201-6328

USDA-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (612) 725-1722

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Common Carp



Leafy Spurge



Purple Loosestrife



Grecian Foxglove



Mute Swan



New Zealand Mudsnail



Asian Soybean Rust



Glossy Buckthorn



Asian longhorned Beetle



Wild Parsnip



Flowering Rush



Sea Lamprey