

Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie

Fiscal Year 2013 Non-Native Invasive Species Accomplishments

Accomplished highlights include:

- Target plant species included: cattails, reed canary grass, phragmites, garlic mustard, teasel, autumn olive, willows, multiflora rose and honeysuckles
- Volunteer hours for invasive control totaled 337 including 28 herbicide application hours
- 8 staff members and 16 volunteers are licensed pesticide applicators for Midewin invasive plant treatments
- Environmental education and invasive weed control with Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), Mighty Acorns, North Lawndale Prep, Lewis University and other local schools
- Herbicide training for trail stewards provided along with establishment of quarterly meetings to discuss target species and control methods.



Trail Steward, Larry Costain, using his cart to carry equipment and teasel seed heads.



2013 annual Earth Day volunteer work day. Volunteers hauling garlic mustard back to the pick up!

Also in 2013, Midewin continued to support the cooperative weed management area (CWMA) initiated in 2010. The CWMA is now officially the Northeastern Illinois Invasive Plant Partnership (NIIPP) and receives funding through Midewin from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative agreement between the Forest Service and US EPA. NIIPP now has over 53 members over an eighteen-county area in northeastern Illinois, including most of the Chicago area. NIIPP currently co-coordinates the aquatic invasive species education and outreach program Clean Boats Crew with IL-IN Sea Grant, works with MIPN to provide invasive ornamental plant education and outreach to green industry and its consumers, supports the New Invaders Watch Program through training and database maintenance, and co-coordinates the IL Hydrilla Task Force. Last fall NIIPP was instrumental in organizing a symposium and working group involving green industry and conservation - the first of its kind in Illinois.



Clean Boats Crew providing aquatic invasives educational opportunities.

Activity	Acres	Comments
Mowing	1798	Used to control encroachment of non-native shrubs into grassland habitats
Hand Pulling	15	Used to control invasive plants in sensitive habitats (native woodlands, TES plant populations)
Herbicide	1200	Used to control large infestations that threaten restored native habitats, either as propagule sources or active invading infestations



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