

**Minutes**  
**Ramsey County Cooperative Weed Management Area (RCCWMA) Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 15, 2013, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 pm**

Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District  
2665 Noel Drive  
Little Canada, MN 55117

**I. Meeting opened at 1:05 p.m.**

Introductions were made. Attendees included Carole Gernes – RCCWMA, Laura Van Riper – Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR); Ann White Eagle, Ramsey Conservation District; Mike Goodnature, Ramsey County Parks and Recreation; Meghan Manhattan, St. Paul Parks and Recreation; Mary Lee – Arden Hills Army Training Site, MN National Guard; Simba Blood – Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District; Dana Larsen-Ramsay – H.B. Fuller Company; Monika Chandler, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA).

**I. Partner updates**

A. RCWMA partner general updates:

1. Mary Lee stated that she was just called back from the Federal Government shut down. The military is considered an essential service.
2. Hearing no more updates, we moved on to RCCWMA updates:

B. Update on Carole's activities and partner comments:

1. Status of BWSR CWMA Grant: the technical assistance portion of the grant (\$5000) has been exhausted. Ten thousand dollars remain for land owner cost share reimbursements to remove target species. As of this date, no one has applied. Ann said she would check the date money needs to be spent by. For future RFPs Monika suggested that the Department of Agriculture could set up an agreement and create a cost-share application form similar to the form used by Washington County; approving removal from public lands first and then private property. Meghan suggested that cost share reimbursements include Minnesota Conservation Corps crews. Simba suggested RCCWMA treating infestations to make things easier for the land owner would result in higher participation.
2. Status of NFWF grant: Carole was invited to/ submitted a full National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Pulling Together Initiative Grant to create management plans and begin management of target species on five parcels within Ramsey County. Species include Bohemian knotweed (City of North St. Paul), Oriental bittersweet (City of Maplewood), Japanese hedge parsley (Ramsey County Parks and City of Maplewood) and cut-leaved teasel (Roseville, multiple ownership). Announcements are expected on November 30<sup>th</sup>.
3. *Miscanthus sacchariflorus* research: Carole collected 150 leaf/DNA samples

and 140 seed heads for a genetics study to determine whether it spreads by seed. The study is being conducted by Allison Snow of The Ohio State University.

4. Tansy infestations in Maplewood: Carole contacted the business at 1300 McKnight Road to alert them to common tansy growing along their drive and the back of their property, which shares a property line with Maplewood's Jim's Prairie Preserve. Part of the border along McKnight/Lakewood drive may be County 68 right of way. Carole removed tansy at Joy Park with Joy Cedarleaf's Century College General Biology students, as part of her Maplewood position. There is one sparse patch in need of herbicide treatment. Likewise, an infestation at Wakefield Park is slated for treatment next June. A suggestion was made to ask Sean at Ramsey County corrections for a grounds maintenance contact to treat tansy near the Corrections greenhouses off Lower Afton Road. A few participants asked for information about the greenhouse operations. Carole agreed to find a link to information about fall and spring greenhouse sales. Carole asked Monika whether any composting facilities are now approved for Noxious Weed disposal. Monika replied that she thought that was posted on the MDA's *Bad Plants* webpage.
5. Teasel infestation in Roseville: Carole removed flowering heads before seeds developed in mid-August and cut down all stalks. No new rosettes were found this year, which may indicate that eradication is within reach. Seed viability is supposed to be 4 years. The group suggested asking Chuck Fiedler if he'd like to submit a cost share application to be reimbursed for teasel treatment.
6. Japanese knotweed in North St. Paul has been treated by John Lampe, Invasive Plant News/Green Shoots. He tested different treatment methods last year and found that the bending of stems (but not breaking them), followed by foliar treatment of the regrowth in late summer/early fall had the best success. He followed up this year by treating the entire infestation this way; with volunteer help. Carole was asked to provide a link to information about this method.
7. Japanese hedge parsley (JHP) seems to be spreading along off-road biking trails. It is most common in the south part of the county (Battle Creek Park and Fish Creek), but is being found in small patches further north. Small patches were discovered at Joy Park (seeds removed), Vista Hills Park in Maplewood (pulled by a volunteer) and a Maplewood rain garden (on the spring treatment list). Monika is developing information on umbels. Carole agreed to look up treatments for JHP. Laura suggested posting *Play Clean Go* signs to educate off-road bikers about JHP spread prevention. Signs are already designed. They can be made with your in-house printer or can do a cost share. Susan Burkes has a grant through the forest service. The MN DNR is trying to find sponsors for the program.
8. Parsnip Co. Rd. E Shoreview (CPR) is much improved. Switch grass appears to be the dominant species. Big bluestem, Indian grass, sedges, Indian hemp, *Spira alba* and prairie cordgrass are present. There are still a few parsnip that bolted and produced seed heads and a few rosettes remaining. Continuing treatment may eradicate the infestation. Carole expressed concern that there was some construction near the infestation at the corner of County Road E and Victoria, but noted that she alerted the City

of Shoreview to the infestation's presence. Parsnip at 3M and Minnehaha Avenue, Maplewood was treated and has improved, but there were still blooming plants this summer. The path running through the patch from the road appears to be unused this year.

## II. New Business and Discussion:

- A. Carole reminded participants that MOUs expire the end of this year. Mary Lee said AHATS should have their MOU ready to sign and turn in soon. She requested adding Ramsey Conservation District's address to the minutes.
- B. The group discussed proposed changes to the Minnesota Noxious Weed Law. Proposed changes are sent to the subcommittees and then members meet once to vote. Comments should go to Dan Shaw. Carole will send comments from this meeting to Dan. The only change for wild parsnip is to state that cultivated parsnip is allowed, since they are the same species. The reasoning behind changing leafy spurge from the *Prohibited Control* to the *Restricted List* is that most of the spurge is along MNDOT right of ways in the metro area. Monika is working to complete the risk assessment. Changing the listing may affect funding for biocontrol development and grants. Garlic mustard listing is also being considered being changed from *Prohibited Control* to *Restricted*. Laura stated that it would be better to stay on the *Control* list to continue funding for biocontrol development. Carole passed out her notes from the August 14<sup>th</sup>, *Invasive Plants in Minnesota's Forests: Knowledge, Action and Challenges* Symposium, held at the University of Minnesota. Laura presented at the symposium, regarding progress of biocontrol studies for garlic mustard and other species. Members agreed that listing helps with our programs. Meghan stated that garlic mustard is St. Paul's toughest problem. Carole stated that it is difficult to convince landowners to remove non-listed (control or eradicate) invasive plants.
- C. Group suggestions for future funding included holding an EDDMapS group training for anyone interested and a group training session for early detection species. Mike Richenbach, Cloquet Extension does a backpack sprayer training for woody invasives that is well attended, even with a charge involved. Friends of the Parks should be contacted. Carole said she could see if Roseville's Friends group would be open to a presentation. She has Erica Tenbrook as a contact. Monika suggested contacting the Roseville forester about the Oriental bittersweet. She has her contact info and will email her and cc Carole.
- D. Black swallowwort location should be rechecked for seedlings. The location is on the hillside near the Ecology building, University of MN, St. Paul Campus.

## III. Set next meeting date and location:

- A. Carole will send out a new Doodle poll in mid to late November to schedule a meeting in December.
- B. Future meeting planning suggestions included a flowering rush and *Phragmites* ssp. Summer pontoon boat tour on Otter Lake.

## IV. Meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm

## V. Addendum:

- I. B. 1. The 2011 BWSR CWMA grant expenditures have been extended through December 2014. Funds cannot be used to reimburse conservation corps crews, since MCC and BWSR are both state programs.
- B. 4. The Ramsey Corrections nursery manager is Sean Uslabar: [sean.uslabar@co.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:sean.uslabar@co.ramsey.mn.us). Carole contacted Sean, will receive emails starting in March and will forward them to partners. Sean also said that the sales are posted on the Ramsey County Website prior to each sale. Sean also said he was aware of the tansy on the grounds and had plans to treat it in 2014. Carole emailed the new Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Guide to Removal and Disposal of Noxious Weeds in Minnesota to members and contacts on November 25th. Here is the link to the MDA webpage with map links to approved compost sites: <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/en/plants/pestmanagement/weedcontrol/disposalnoxiousweeds.aspx>
- B. 5. Chuck Fiedler sprayed the cut-leaved teasel rosettes with Razor Pro<sup>®</sup> herbicide on October 10th.
- B. 6. See <http://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/library/water-and-land/weeds/BMPs/Knotweed-Control.pdf>, page 8 for a short description of the Japanese knotweed stem-bending and foliar spray method. Slightly more detailed description is found in this paper forwarded by John: [http://www.seattle.gov/util/groups/public/@spu/@ssw/documents/webcontent/01\\_026334.pdf](http://www.seattle.gov/util/groups/public/@spu/@ssw/documents/webcontent/01_026334.pdf) and this PowerPoint: [http://www.clallam.net/WeedControl/assets/applets/Knotweed\\_Control\\_Trial\\_Update.pdf](http://www.clallam.net/WeedControl/assets/applets/Knotweed_Control_Trial_Update.pdf).
- B. 7. Japanese hedge parsley control methods rated by the MIPN Control Database (<http://mipncontroldatabase.wisc.edu/>) include the following:
- a. Mechanical treatment:
    1. mowing after bolting but before seeds are produced. Plants may re-flower but rarely produce viable seed.
    2. Prescribed burns kill seeds and seedlings but plants quickly resprout and reinvade. Burning is not recommended unless integrated with other methods.
    3. Plants may also be pulled or roots cut 1" to 2: below the soil surface.
  - b. Chemical treatment; apply in spring or fall to rosettes or to bolting plants (in order of most to least effective):
    1. Metsulfuron; avoid drift. Spot spray concentration: 0.04 oz/gal (0.02 oz a.i./gal)
    2. Triclopyr; spot spray at 1 - 2% (0.1 - 0.2 lb a.e./gal). Do not apply in areas with high water tables or highly permeable soils. Use product labeled for aquatic use if potential exists for solution to contact surface waters.
    3. Glyphosate: 1 - 2% (0.05 - 0.09 lb a.e./gal). Avoid drift. Use product labeled for aquatic use if potential exists for solution to contact surface waters.

II. A. Signed MOUs may be mailed to: Ann White Eagle  
Ramsey Conservation District  
1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive  
Highway 96 & Hamline Ave  
Arden Hills, MN 55112

or, they may be scanned and emailed to: [ann.whiteeagle@co.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:ann.whiteeagle@co.ramsey.mn.us).

Respectfully submitted by Carole Gernes, 11/25/13

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