

**Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition (WRISC)
Action Team 2015**

Team: Education and Outreach

Members	Contact
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Purpose:

The Education and Outreach Action Team works to support the WRISC coordinator in invasive species education and outreach efforts with creative ideas, resources, and feedback. They also help to fill education gaps and promote a unified message across the WRISC coverage area.

Regular Meetings:

Meets on odd numbered months via conference call. Meeting times are scheduled by the WRISC Coordinator using doodle poll results. To join call dial **401-283-4156** and enter code **34985**.

2015 Goals:

Long Term:

1. Maintain and update WRISC educational publications and display materials as needed.
2. Develop educational workplan/wishlist, seek additional funding to support.
3. Generally promote invasive species education/outreach throughout the WRISC area

2015 Projects:

1. Redesign WRISC brochure
2. Provide feedback on website and newsletter design/content
3. Design new CBCW signs (resurface existing sidewalk signs, purchase additional signs as needed)
4. Redesign and resurface WRISC portable billboard? (Funding pending)
5. Explore target audience educational kits

November 19 2015 Meeting Minutes (1:00-1:30)

In attendance: Emily Anderson, Lindsay Peterson, John Preuss, Nicole Shutt, Corrin Seaman, Scott Reuss

1. Discuss upcoming new outreach products

- a. **Thistle Brochure: Review current draft, design, layout, content:** *Should include that Canada thistle is a federal/state noxious weed and several species are regulated invasives in Wisconsin. Nicole suggested referencing several native thistles present in the region, and will provide species names and/or pictures. Scott referenced a bacterial disease that can be used as treatment against Canada thistle. Lindsay/Emily will work to add text/pictures to brochure and email it for feedback.*

- b. PlayCleanGo signage:** *Emily will be working with PlayCleanGo graphics contacts to create/order trail signs and possibly posters. May send sign options to action team for review.*
 - c. Portable Billboard:** *Lindsay will be working up designs for resurfacing of the WRISC portable billboard. One side will be aquatic and one terrestrial (playcleango). Design options will be sent to the action team when ready.*
- 2. Next newsletter – January: Create list of possible topics:** *This newsletter will include a 2015 annual report compiled by Emily and Lindsay.*

Emily offered options for a species profile: buckthorn, oriental bittersweet, and miscanthus which while not regulated is becoming more common and can be reported to MISIN. Nicole agreed with the miscanthus suggestion and is tentatively scheduled to write the article in December. Emily has a miscanthus guide from Iowa that she will send to the team.

Emily did not have any partner projects in mind, but suggested we could also consider highlighting an individual partner or the board of directors. Scott suggested a phragmites project in Marinette with multiple partners funded by Ducks Unlimited, Greg Cleereman would have more information for an article. The team will consider any other partner projects brought up at the December board meeting and then make a final decision.
- 3. BOD suggestion: Draft letter to legislature (specifically, more WI terrestrial invasive funding)**

In several recent meetings, the board of directors has discussed advocating for more terrestrial invasive funding in Wisconsin. It was suggested that the education/outreach team assist by perhaps drafting a letter to the legislature. Emily will not be able to assist since this is not a part of any grant project. Anything drafted by the team would have to be approved by the board. Scott will contact Margie (who suggested the letter) for more information.
- 4. Other**
- 5. BOD Agenda Item(s)**

Legislature letter (if time available)