

Northwoods Weed Initiative  
Meeting Minutes  
Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center  
10-06-2003

Attendees: Tom Cogger, Kristy Maki, John Markus, Steven Spickerman, Wendy Stein

-Wendy relayed information from an email with Barb Gajewski. In a recent trip to the West, Barb was impressed with all the information on noxious weeds available to the public from the Forest Service (everything from detailed brochures to posters to bumper stickers). The bumper stickers were developed by a local group and designed by kids. Possibly something we could look into. Barb will bring samples to the next meeting.

-Tom reported the Leafy spurge brochures would be sent to the Town of Washburn residents with their snowplow notice.

Tom met the new science teacher at the Washburn High School and provided her with a copy of the Leafy spurge brochure and a copy of our draft mgmt. plan. She was enthusiastic about the Ecology Club staying involved in our project. They discussed a Fall inventory of spurge sites in the Town of Washburn; having students bike the roads and spray the pavement adjacent to the sites to alert the Town work crew. Then, maybe later do another GPS of the sites as well as a Spring inventory - possibly leading into some type of statistical analysis.

It was suggested that we ask the Town of Washburn for funding in support of the herbicide spraying conducted by GLIFWC in that township. In addition, funding for marking paint for the students to use to identify the spurge sites.

Tom will be absent for the next Washburn Town Meeting. Wendy will attend and relay the above requests.

-More discussion on a washing facility. The only design we have is for a portable washing facility. What is done with the waste material? Steven will email his contacts out West for additional design plans and attempt to find out what they do with the waste material. John questioned whether a pesticide-rinsing facility would be similar; he will check into plans for that.

-Discussed the curriculum activity going on by various people and thought it might be useful to attempt to bring these parties together to share their plans, progress, and ideas. For the November meeting, Wendy will invite Mike Kroenke and Kathleen Morgen from the UW-Extension. Tom will ask the Washburn science teacher. Wendy will also ask Pam Troxell to extend an invitation to Clayton Russell.

Wendy mentioned that Mike Kroenke is working with Tim Kane to develop a workshop on invasives including a powerpoint presentation. Wendy had started work on a powerpoint presentation. Tom suggested the powerpoint might be a good project for the Ecology Club to take on.

If/when we get a protocol down for working with Town Boards, it would be worth taking that info/presentation to a Wisconsin Town's Association meeting.

-Recent press coverage in the Ashland Daily Press was good and shared over a wide area.

-Kristy reported on the Natural Areas Conference. mainly "what's knocking on the door" as far as invasives -- plants like Japanese knotweed; water hyacinth (it's in the water treatment plant in Fifiield, Wisconsin).

-Agenda items for next meeting:

- \*discuss curriculum activity with those able to attend (Mike, Kathleen, Clayton, Washburn HS)

- \*update mgmt plan including work plan (Does it still need to be "draft" form? Please try to review the plan prior to the meeting.)

- \*grants - (is it time to re-submit--Wendy will ask Pam to check into those submitted last year)

- \*poster update

- \*herbicide update

-Next meeting: Tuesday, November 4, 2003, 9:00 a.m. at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center--1<sup>st</sup> floor multi-purpose room.

Wendy Stein  
Notetaker