

## Invasive Species Identification and Control

It is desired that native species dominate the coastal forests and invasive species are limited in extent. An important restoration activity is to eliminate or control invasive species. Restoration will be conducted to reduce the potential for the spread and introduction of invasive species. Planting areas should be monitored for invasive species. If found, invasive populations will be eliminated or controlled.

An important restoration activity is to replace off-site species with appropriate native plants. This may at times require a more wide-spread effort than tree planting.

What's the difference between invasive species and noxious weeds?

Invasive species include plants that are not native to the area and cause harm. A noxious weed is a plant species that has been placed on the “Noxious Weed List” regulated by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Most but not all noxious weeds are also classified as invasive species.

There are many references on-line for identification and control of invasive species. [Minnesota Noxious Weeds](#) provides a useful guide to noxious weeds, invasive species and native look-alikes. This book provides information about the plant, its identification, management and control. It is updated annually by the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Other references

Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest: An Illustrated Guide to their Identification and Control by Elizabeth J. Czarapata, published by University of Wisconsin Press 2005.

*Funding for this project was provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)*