



SEVERN SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION (SSEA)
INVASIVE SPECIES (IS) WORKING GROUP
November 30, 2021 MEETING
MINUTES

Present:

1. Tamara Brincat	SSEA Invasive Species Program Coordinator
2. Michelle Hudolin	SSEA
3. Shannon Mawhinney	SSEA Climate/Watershed Resilience Coordinator
4. Nicole Stott	SSEA
5. Julie Cayley	SSEA
6. Bryan Anderson	Township of Tay
7. Dylan Flannery	Town of Midland
8. James Turnbull	Town of Midland
9. Quinton Kenney	Town of Midland
10. Roy Patenaude	Town of Penetanguishene
11. Tim Leitch	Township of Tiny
12. Briana Dean	Township of Springwater
13. Brad Sokach	Township of Georgian Bay
14. Darcy Persad	Township of Georgian Bay
15. Trish Walton	Township of Georgian Bay
16. Derek Burke	Township of Severn
17. Patrick Jackson	Friends of Wye Marsh
18. Nicole Carpenter	Georgian Bay Forever
19. Laura Baldwick	Parks Canada (Georgian Bay Island National Park)
20. Will Cox	County of Simcoe

1. Welcome/Introductions

2. SSEA Invasive Species Updates (Tamara)

- Ldd update
 - SSEA: egg mass surveys and 2022 forecast report will be distributed to working group/municipal representatives by December 10th
 - County of Simcoe:
 - [County of Simcoe Ldd Report September 2021](#)
 - [2021 egg mass survey and 2022 defoliation forecast](#)
 - Ontario:
 - [MNDMNRF 2021 defoliation map](#)
 - 2022 forecast should be publicly available soon
- Invasive Species Management Initiatives 2021
 - Township of Tiny – Phragmites and spotted knapweed
 - Town of Penetanguishene – Phragmites
 - Township of Tay – Himalayan balsam
 - Township of Severn – giant hogweed
 - Town of Midland – glossy buckthorn and Bee City site management

3. Depave & Bee City Projects (Shannon)

- Introduction to Shannon's work on climate and watershed resilience – help municipalities meet their climate change goals
- Introduction to Bee City program

- Gawley Park, Midland as example site
- Support SSEA can offer to municipalities includes: report to summarize benefits, application support, collaboration on communication materials, help celebrate national pollinator week, identification, monitoring, management for 1-2 sites, sharing of by-law scan to support policy
- Introduction to Depave Paradise
 - Funded program
 - Benefits and goal of program – remove asphalt and replace with soil and native plants
 - Requirements include an area of >100 sq m of asphalt (not concrete)

4. Open Discussion/Questions

- **Question 1: How has your municipality (or organization) been managing noxious weeds (i.e., giant hogweed, Japanese knotweed, poison ivy*)?**
- Midland → eradicate hogweed, poison ivy* and Japanese knotweed through herbicide application
 - Contracted herbicide application out to Weed Man
- Tiny → manage hogweed through herbicide application; spray poison ivy* on trails; also dealt with knotweed
 - Contracted herbicide application to TruGreen this year; other years used Weed Man
 - Equipment cleaning protocols in place to prevent spread of invasive species (e.g., for lawnmower)
 - Control noxious weeds in accordance with provincial Weed Control Act; use this to create municipal by-laws for management on private property
- Springwater → manage poison ivy* with herbicide application
 - Contract herbicide application to TruGreen
- Tay → manage hogweed and poison ivy* through herbicide application
 - Have two staff that are licensed to spray
 - Remediate and continual monitoring of sites
 - Have observed knotweed on roadsides (none in parks or trails to date) but have not sprayed it
- Georgian Bay → manage hogweed with 2 herbicide applications per year
 - Problem with Hogweed not being managed on adjacent private property
 - Knotweed managed with District of Muskoka (successful)
 - Contracted herbicide application to Weed Man
- Severn → managing hogweed, poison ivy*, and knotweed on trails and roadsides
 - Use localized herbicide spraying through third party contractor (Wagner Lawn Care and Turf King)
- Wye Marsh → manage poison ivy* and spotted water hemlock
 - Manual removal with proper PPE
- County of Simcoe → manage knotweed and hogweed with herbicide application
 - Internal staff that are licensed to apply herbicides
 - Don't manage poison ivy* unless it is a direct safety hazard (poison ivy* is a native species)
 - Roads department do some roadside spraying of noxious weeds
 - Yard waste is often dumped into County forests so they added signage about the damage of dumping garden waste to help with education and prevention
 - Connect with trail users (e.g., mountain bikers) to educate them on how equipment can introduce and spread invasive species

- Georgian Bay Island National Park (Parks Canada) → manage knotweed when they have the staff/ resourced to do cutting
 - Placed warning signs in areas of poison ivy*
 - One staff that has pesticide license and will spray poison ivy* if it is a direct interference (e.g., growing on a campsite)
- **Are invasive species removed in-house or is the work contracted out? Please provide an example species.**
- Tiny → lots of volunteers and partnerships to assist with invasive species management
 - Farlain Lake Community Association has an Ontario trillium grant for Eurasian water-milfoil management
 - Hosted two Depave Paradise events with volunteers
 - Recently designated a Bee City
 - Support Tiny Marsh financially on their Phragmites removal
- Georgian Bay Island National Park → hired Invasive Phragmites Control Centre to bring truxors [amphibious vehicles] to cut Phragmites
 - Disposal involved drying out biomass on island
- Georgian Bay Forever → hired truxors at Quarry Island
 - Hired 4 summer students through funding from Township of Georgian Bay and Tay
 - Mechanical removal only (no herbicide)
- Wye Marsh → use own staff, volunteers and partnership with SSEA (for Phragmites)
 - Tested Phragmites samples for hybridization between the native and invasive subspecies – all came back as native
- Tay → support community groups and help with disposal
- Georgian Bay → support local community groups, provide in-kind support, move equipment and materials around
- **How is your municipality (or organization) managing Ldd Moth?**
- Midland → education and materials on website
 - Discussed at Council meeting but no management has been taken (cost)
- Tiny → completed a public survey
 - Community wants a municipal spray program
 - Waiting for SSEA report to do a special meeting with SSEA, County and Ontario
 - To date, they have not sprayed municipal property
 - Made exemption to overspray policy on municipal property to allow property owners to participate in a private aerial spray program
- Springwater → reviewing information from partners and will be discussed at Council to see next steps
- Tay → received a lot of public calls
 - Direct people towards education and resources
- Georgian Bay → provide education and resourced on website
 - Discussed at Council meeting
- Georgian Bay Island National Park → no management to date
 - Interest in spraying at other parks but not GBI
- Severn → some defoliation in Coldwater, Matchedash Bay, and Gloucester Pool area
- County → Ldd name change to come
 - Providing information to partners
 - Collecting data (i.e., egg mass surveys in predominantly oak forests) and update mapping
 - Not currently looking at any spraying
 - Protect forest health by ensuring diversity of species
- Georgian Bay Forever → received questions, directed people to SSEA

Note: All municipalities mentioned that they relied on partners such as SSEA, County/District and Ontario to provide science-based information to utilize in management decisions.

- **Question 4: What invasive species are you getting the most public inquiry about?**
- Midland → Japanese knotweed, Ldd
- Tiny → Ldd, Phragmites, poison Ivy*
- Springwater → Ldd, poison ivy*
- Tay → Ldd, poison ivy*, giant hogweed
- Georgian Bay Island National Park → Ldd, Phragmites
- County → Ldd, hogweed
- **Question 5: Do you have ideas on how invasive species can be reported to SSEA/the municipality?**
 - There were great discussions on the previous questions so this question was not discussed in meeting due to time constraints
 - We would like the participating municipalities/organizations to follow up with their response via email
- **Question 6: Is there interest in targeted invasive species training sessions for staff (including seasonal staff)? Any feedback or ideas on how to coordinate this is welcome.**
 - There were great discussions on the previous questions so this question was not discussed in meeting due to time constraints
 - We would like the participating municipalities/organizations to follow up with their response via email
- **Question 7: Would you be interested in a one-on-one meeting with SSEA to discuss invasive species priorities?**
 - There were great discussions on the previous questions so this question was not discussed in meeting due to time constraints
 - We would like the participating municipalities/organizations to follow up with their response via email
- 5. **Closing Remarks**
- Each municipality will receive their own 2021 municipal invasive species report - distributed in end of January/ beginning of February 2022
 - Reports will include monitoring results, invasive species priorities and SSEA's recommendations
 - Municipalities are encouraged to provide input and feedback into these reports so they can be streamlined to their needs
- Next working group meeting will be April 2022
- Upcoming webinars of interest
 - [Ontario Ldd webinar](#) (Wednesday December 1st at 7 PM)
 - [Phragmites financing webinar for municipal staff](#) (Friday December 3rd at 11 AM)
 - Pre-registration is required; recording will be available afterwards

**Note: poison ivy is a noxious weed, however, it is native to the area and is not an invasive species*

Action Items Before Next Meeting

- Working group representatives send response to question 5, 6 & 7 to SSEA via email
- SSEA distribute Ldd report to working group
- SSEA contact working group representatives to schedule a one-on-one meeting in 2022
- Working group representatives to provide input to 2021 municipal invasive species report
- SSEA distribute 2021 municipal invasive species reports
- Working group representatives work with SSEA to coordinate municipal staff IS training for 2022