

Invasive Weeds in Les Cheneaux



Coastal wetland plants are crucial in our diverse Les Cheneaux ecosystem. Some exotic plants have invaded our area and are beginning to out-compete native species. Displacement of native plants degrades ecosystem biodiversity and adversely affects species dependent on native plants for food and shelter.

Please contact the Watershed Council for detailed information on how invasive plants affect our local environment and how you can control their spread among our islands.

Les Cheneaux Watershed Council
Box 578
Cedarville, MI 49719



... protecting, conserving
and restoring our
water-based resources.

We invite you to
volunteer for
Council projects and
become an
active member!

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Phragmites (frag-my-teez) australis, or common reed, is a tall, perennial wetland grass that can grow to over 15 feet in height. Both native and introduced subspecies are found locally. Introduced (invasive) Phragmites forms dense stands that out-compete native plants, adversely affecting biodiversity and wildlife. Control is possible but must be undertaken in a systematic way.

Check with the Watershed Council office for more information.

Useful websites include:

www.nps.gov/plants/alien

www.wisconsinwetlands.org/phragbrochure.pdf

www.michigan.gov/deq.

www.gardensalive.com/article.asp



Purple loosestrife, Lythrum salicaria, is a highly invasive perennial herb which forms dense, homogeneous stands that reduce waterfowl habitat and restrict growth of native wetland species including

native grasses, sedges and other flowering plants that provide higher quality nutrition for wildlife.

Purple loosestrife can be controlled.

Check with your Watershed Council office for more information.

Useful websites include:

www.nps.gov/plants/alien/

www.invasiveplants.ab.ca



Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) (Myriophyllum spicatum) is an invasive species that out-competes native submerged vegetation which resulted in limited recreational boating, a poor fishery and reduced biodiversity in Cedarville Bay. Combined biological and mechanical control methods have allowed recovery of native submerged vegetation in the bay.

EWM has spread to other areas within Les Cheneaux.

Contact the Watershed Council for information on non-chemical control methods.

Useful websites include:

www.great-lakes.net/envt/flora-fauna/milfoil

www.dnr.wi.gov/invasives/fact/milfoil

www.enviroscienceinc.com