

SLELO PRISM Partners

Share These Goals:

PREVENTION

Prevent the introduction of invasive species into the SLELO PRISM region.

EARLY DETECTION & RAPID RESPONSE

Detect new and recent invaders and rapidly respond to eliminate all individuals within a specific area.

COOPERATION

Share resources, expertise, personnel, equipment and information.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Collect, utilize, and share information regarding surveys, infestations, control methods, monitoring and research.

CONTROL

Control invasive species infestations by using best management practices, methods and techniques to include:

ERADICATION - Eliminate all individuals and the seed bank from an area.

CONTAINMENT - Reduce the spread of established infestations.

SUPPRESSION - Reduce the density but not necessarily the total infested area.

RESTORATION

Develop and implement effective restoration methods for areas that have been degraded by invasive species and where suppression or control has taken place.

EDUCATION / OUTREACH

Increase public awareness and understanding of invasive species issues through volunteer monitoring, citizen science and community outreach.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management
SLELO PRISM

C/O The Nature Conservancy

(315) 387-3600 x 7725

www.sleloinvasives.org

Get Involved

Report Invasive Species Observations at
www.imapinvasives.org

Join our invasive species **Volunteer Surveillance Network (VSN)**.

For details, contact

megan.pistolese@tnc.org

Join our **listserv** and get notifications for upcoming trainings and workshops.

To join follow these steps:

- **Email** cce-slelo-l-request@cornell.edu
- **Type** “join” in subject space
- **Send** a blank email body

Cover photo: Jill Swearingen, USDA National Park Service, bugwood.org. Inside left column top photo: Bernd Blossey, Cornell University, bugwood.org Inside left column bottom photo: John M. Randall, The Nature Conservancy, bugwood.org. inside far right column top ligule and stem photos: illinoiswildflowers.info. Inside far right fungal spot photo: <http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/phau1.htm> Flowers photo: <http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/phragmites/native-or-not.cfm>.



SLELO PRISM

St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management



What You Should Know About Phragmites (*Phragmites australis*)

SLELO PRISM

“Teaming up to stop the spread of invasive species”

What is *Phragmites*?

Phragmites (*Phragmites australis*), also known as common reed, is an invasive perennial grass and is thought to be one of the most widespread plants on Earth. It is believed to have originated from the Middle East, and is sometimes hard to distinguish from the native *Phragmites* species (*Phragmites australis subsp. Americanus*). Invasive *Phragmites australis* outcompetes native vegetation, reduces biodiversity, and alters the habitats and hydrology of wetland regions. It also increases the potential for natural fires to occur. Below are pictures that illustrate how dense invasive *Phragmites australis* populations can become.



Steps You Can take to Stop the Spread of Phragmites:

Phragmites australis is on the New York State Prohibited & Regulated Invasive Plants list; you can stop its' spread by not buying or selling this invasive plant.

Control & Management

Physical control: Maintain or plant native vegetation that competes with *Phragmites* such as: Jesuit's bark (*Iva frutescens*), groundsel-tree (*Braccharis halimifolia*), and black rush (*Juncus roemerianus*). Controlled burns are also effective under the right conditions, as well as water level manipulation. Hand pulling isn't a feasible control method due to the expansive and tough root and rhizome network associated with the plant.

Mechanical Control: repeated mowing can produce short-term results; breaking stems in high-water years has also shown to control large portions of *Phragmites* colonies. However, these methods require repeated application as broken plant fragments can generate a new plant.

Chemical Control: Chemical applications are best applied in late summer or early fall **after the plant has flowered**. Multiple years of treatment may be necessary to eradicate surviving rhizomes. It is important to follow specific herbicide control guidelines as per label.

Native Vs. Invasive Phragmites:



Invasive varieties have a bushier flower head that are purple to golden brown in color and grow to 1-2 feet in length and drape to one side.

Non-native



Native

