



Invasive Plants In The Midwest

Assessment, Management, Partnerships
Kansas City, December 14 -15



The North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS) and The Midwest Invasive Plant Network (MIPN) will cosponsor a program on invasive plants at the NCWSS Annual Meeting in Kansas City, Dec. 12-15, 2005. The program will include a one-day invasive plants symposium on Dec. 14 and volunteer papers and a free workshop on Cooperative Weed Management Areas on Dec. 15. The annual MIPN meeting will be held following the symposium on Dec. 14.

Registration is \$40 for one day and \$60 for both days.

The symposium will include a national overview of programs to prevent and manage invasives by Dr. John Randall, the Director of The Nature Conservancy's Invasive Species Initiative. The symposium will also include talks on current and potential invasive plants in the lower and upper Midwest, working with the horticultural industry to reduce intentional introductions, and comprehensive talks on the control and management of garlic mustard, bush honeysuckle, Canada thistle, and *Sericea lespedeza*.

Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMAs) are local organizations that integrate all weed management resources across jurisdictional boundaries in order to benefit entire communities.

In the western U.S., CWMAs have successfully brought together public and private partners to combat common invasive plant problems, but the CWMA concept has not yet been widely implemented in the central and eastern parts of the country. This free 3 hour workshop will introduce participants to the basics of CWMAs, share CWMA success stories from other regions, and provide guidance on how to develop a CWMA in your area. Topics to be covered will be getting organized, defining objectives and priorities, developing partnerships, and creating a strategic plan.

We encourage everyone interested in invasive plants in the Midwest to attend the MIPN meeting. We will provide updates on MIPN activities, elect a board of directors, and conduct other MIPN business. We will also discuss the potential for further collaboration between MIPN and the NCWSS.

Guest Presenters

John Randell
Kelly Kearns
Tim Smith
Valerie Vartanian
Kate Howe
William T. Scott
Jerry Doll
David Borneman
Ron Rathfon

[For more information](#)

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