



# Invasives in the Marketplace - Organisms In Trade

Wisconsin Lakes  
Partnership Conference  
6 April 2017

Mary Bartkowiak

Invasive Species Outreach Coordinator

[Mary.bartkowiak@wi.gov](mailto:Mary.bartkowiak@wi.gov)



# Chapter NR 40, Wis. Admin. Code

## Prohibited vs Restricted



- Not here yet (pioneer populations)
- High environmental/economic impacts
- Eradication is possible
- Control is required



- Established in the State
- High environmental/economic impacts
- Complete eradication is unlikely
- Control is encouraged

# Prohibited Species

No person may transport, possess, transfer or introduce a prohibited invasive species

Permits for research, public display, or for other purposes specified by the department.



# Restricted Species

No person may transport, transfer, or introduce any restricted invasive species.

**Containment is  
the goal**





# The law also requires certain preventative measures



**PROTECT THE TREES**  
where you live,  
play or camp.

**Get FIREWOOD where you use it.**

Insects and diseases that kill trees can hide and hitchhike in firewood.

**DON'T GIVE THEM A FREE RIDE.**

**DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD.**

Wisconsin Fish & Game



**PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES**  
**IT'S THE LAW**

**PENALTIES MAY EXCEED \$2000**

Before *launching* and before *leaving* **YOU MUST:**

- ✓ **INSPECT** boats, trailers, and equipment.
- ✓ **REMOVE** all attached aquatic plants and animals.
- ✓ **DRAIN** all water from boats, vehicles, and equipment.
- ✓ **NEVER MOVE** plants or live fish away from a waterbody.\*

 **STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!**  
Prevent the spread of invasive species, it's the law

\*Limited exceptions apply. Visit [WWW.DNR.WI.GOV](http://WWW.DNR.WI.GOV) and search for "BAIT LAWS."

# Phase-out Period

## No Allowance for Prohibited Plants

Agreement to allow nursery growers to sell off existing stock of **Restricted** species.

- 5 years for restricted trees and shrubs
- 3 years for restricted all other plants

No further propagation or importation

*(Must have been present in WI before May 2015)*

# Stepped Enforcement by WDNR

## Education First!

Series of increasing levels of enforcement, ending in citation and fee.



# Organisms In Trade (OIT)

- Decrease presence of regulated species
- Reduce need to respond rapidly to new invasive species findings
- Increased partnerships with industries and consumer groups



## Organisms in Trade

Aquatic Plant and Pet Trade  
Nursery Industry/Landscaping Industry  
Internet Retailers  
Biological Supply Houses  
Out-of-State Distributors



# Aquarium, Pet, and Plant Vendors



# Aquarium/Pet Shops

90 site visits in 2016



Outreach & Education  
for this industry!





## Understanding Invasive Species

*Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff*

Being a responsible hobbyist extends beyond your aquarium or water garden.

Here's what you can do to help protect your local wetlands and waterways.

**Do Not Release** any aquarium or water garden plants or fish into ocean environments, local lakes or streams. They may become nuisance invaders crowding out native species and damaging local habitat for fish, birds, insects, and amphibians.

**Please Do Your Part** to protect our environment. Choose your plants and fish carefully, care for them responsibly, and if needed, dispose of them properly.

### What to do with unwanted fish or plants:

- Trade or give to another aquarist or pond-keeper
- Donate to a local aquarium, elementary school, or biology department
- Sell or return to a local aquarium shop dealer

**Proper disposal of unwanted plants** includes drying, burning, composting or sealing in a plastic bag for disposal in household trash.

### Learn to Recognize Commonly-Used Species that are Invasive or Potentially So.

LiveAquaria.com will not ship species that are listed by the DNR as Invasive to your state.

### Example Restricted Species:



... any aquarium or pond species into local waters. Please do your part to protect the environment.

Partnerships

# DATCP Nursery Inspections-2016

Just to name a few:

- Water lettuce
- Water hyacinth
- Porcelain berry
- Japanese barberry
- Chocolate vine

16 P

12 R

2 P/R



# Biological Suppliers Out of State Nurseries





# Internet & Social Media



# Botanical Gardens/Arboreta



# Master Gardener/ Community garden sales





# Beware of Hitch-hikers



## Jumping worms confirmed in 5 counties

Jumping worms, an invasive species, were discovered in Wisconsin for the first time in Dane County in the fall of 2013. Since then, they have been confirmed in five counties, including Milwaukee and Waukesha. The DNR says the worms may be present in a total of 14 Wisconsin counties.



### Jumping worms

- Native to: East Asia
- Length: 1.5 inches to 7 inches
- Identifying features: Milky-white clitellum; jumps and thrashes when handled
- Problem: They turn soil dry and grainy.



Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Journal Sentinel



Successful  
teamwork!  
Consumers,  
retailers &  
wholesalers







Report all Regulated  
Species to  
[Invasive.Species@wi.gov](mailto:Invasive.Species@wi.gov)



Thanks!

*DNR efforts are funded through:*



*"We're committed to creating a new standard of care that will leave the Great Lakes better for the next generation."*