



Invasive Plants in the Midwest: Hot Spots & Training Opps

Clair Ryan

Midwest Invasive Plant Network Coordinator

Prairie State Conservation Coalition Annual Meeting

Starved Rock State Park, March 2, 2017

OVERVIEW

▶ What is MIPN?

- ❖ Overview of recent and upcoming projects
- ❖ Available training on MIPN products and initiatives

▶ New & spreading invasive species threats

- ❖ Species on our radar
- ❖ “Heat map” for Illinois

MIDWEST INVASIVE PLANT NETWORK

- ▶ Started in 2003 to coordinate among agencies & organizations across the region
- ▶ Our mission: To reduce the impacts of invasive plants in the Midwest



WHAT WE DO

► Spread prevention/early detection

- ❖ Ornamental invasives in trade
 - ❑ Engaging the green industry
 - ❑ Landscape Alternatives app ([training/demo available!](#))
 - ❑ “Plants on the Move” with botanic gardens and arboreta
- ❖ “Keep a Lookout” info sheets
- ❖ Regional distribution tracking tools
 - ❑ Great Lakes Early Detection Network app ([training/demo available!](#))



WHAT WE DO

► Information Clearinghouse

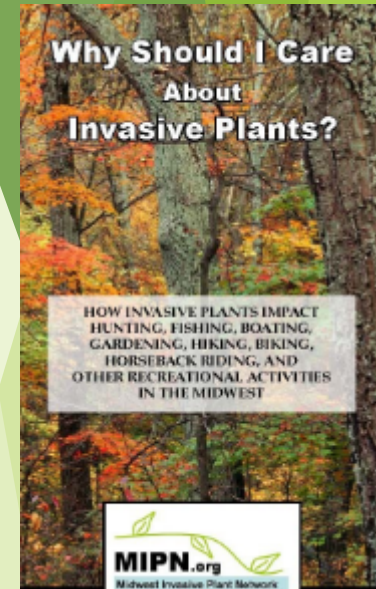
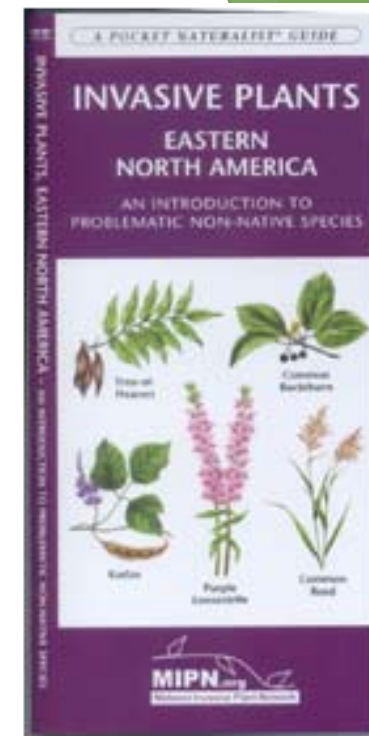
- ❖ Invasive plant control methods
 - MIPN Control Database ([training/demo available!](#))
- ❖ State species lists and risk assessments

► Outreach and Education

- ❖ Publications - Invasive plant ID, “why should I care”
 - For sale via [MIPN.org/Morton Arboretum Store](#)
- ❖ Conferences (UMISC, state conferences)

► Advocate micro-regional collaboration

- ❖ CWMA Cookbook - ([training available!](#))



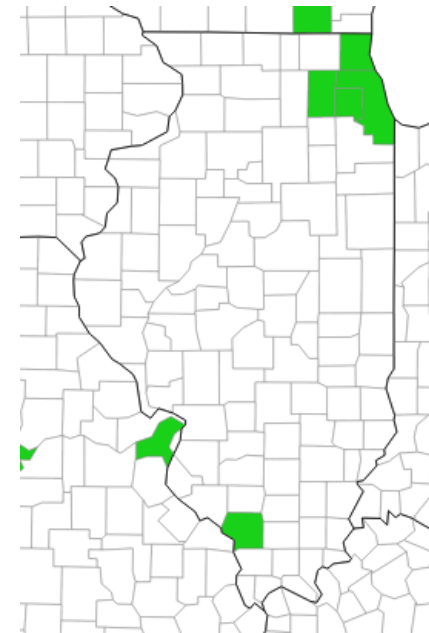
ON THE HORIZON

- ▶ Development of regional resources for replanting treatment areas
 - ❖ BMPs and plant lists for various habitats
 - ❖ Directory of nurseries and contractors
- ▶ Regional collaborative on woody ornamental invasives (tent.)



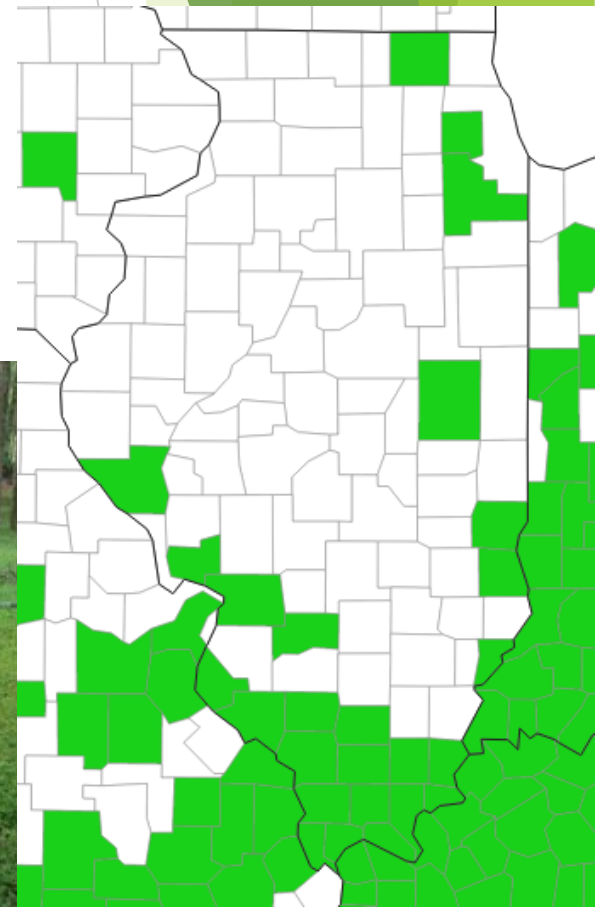
NEW INVASIVE - *FICARIA VERNA*

- ▶ Thrives in disturbed areas - ditches & streambanks
- ▶ Very early spring ephemeral
 - ❖ Forms dense carpets & prevents the germination of native wildflowers
- ▶ Reproduces by seed & tubers



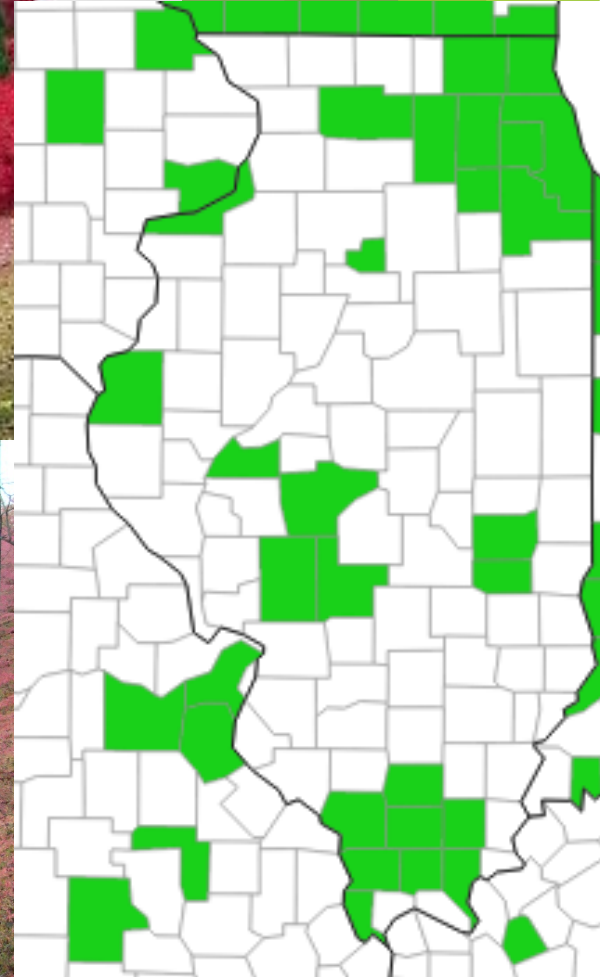
NEW INVASIVE - *MICROSTEGIUM VIMINEUM*

- ▶ Thrives in disturbed areas - ditches & streambanks
- ▶ Forms dense carpets & prevents the germination of both spring and late season natives
 - ❖ Has allelopathic potential
- ▶ Reproduces by seed
- ▶ Deer won't eat it



NEW INVASIVE - *EUONYMUS ALATUS*

- ▶ Popular ornamental
 - ❖ Pruning → ++ reproduction
- ▶ Invader of both IL oak-hickory-maple forests & prairie
- ▶ Hardy, long season
- ▶ Seed spread by birds
- ▶ Deer won't eat it

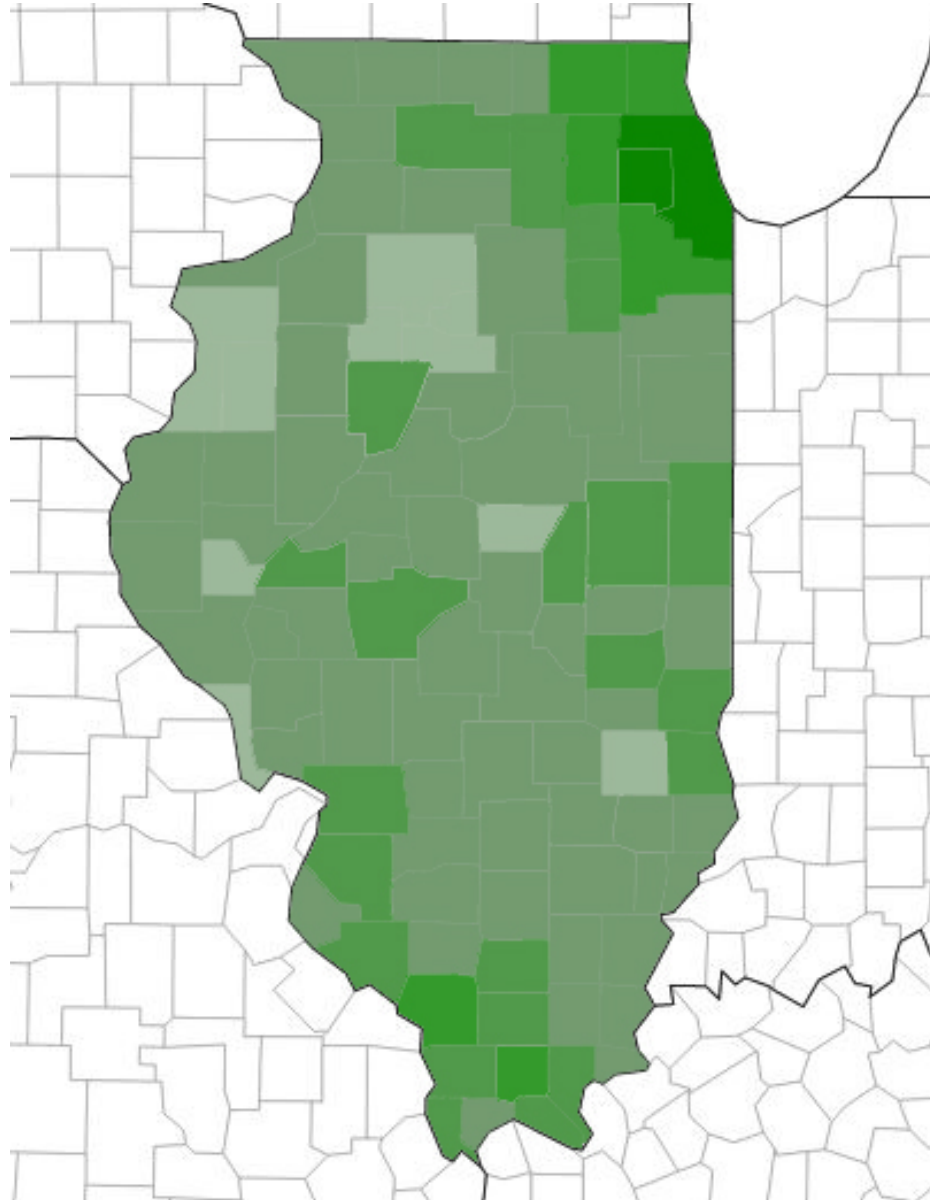


NEW INVASIVE - *EICHHORNIA CRASSIPES*

- ▶ Fascinating introduction/early control story
- ▶ Forms dense mats, excluding natives & depleting water O₂
- ▶ Excellent mosquito breeding habitat
- ▶ Cold winters prevent naturalization...
 - ❖ Spread readily by boat traffic, water garden escape



IL DISTRIBUTION OF 56 KEY INVASIVE PLANTS



EDD **MapS**
Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System

- >35 species
- 26 - 35 species
- 16 - 25 species
- 6 - 15 species
- 1 - 5 species

February, 2017

THANK YOU!

▶ Clair Ryan, MIPN Coordinator

❖ (630) 719-5649

❖ mipn@mortonarb.org

❖ MIPN.org