NON-NATIVE PHRAGMITES

Prohibited - Control

Phragmites australis (Cav.) Trin. Ex Steud. subsp. australis

Check out MAISRC's <u>Identify Invasive</u> <u>Phragmites</u> guide for identification and key differences.

Common Names

European Common Reed, Invasive Giant Reed, Invasive Phragmites

Life Cycle

Perennial grass

Native Range

Eurasia

Look-a-Likes

<u>Amur Silvergrass (pg 39)</u> Native Phragmites (pg 89)

Habitat

Shorelines of lakes and rivers as well as pond edges and freshwater marshes. Disturbed areas (roadsides, storm water ponds, and rail corridors) can support non-native Phragmites very well.

Means of Spread

Spreads to new areas by both seeds and vegetative means (stolons, green stem fragments, rhizomes). Seed dispersal occurs through wind, water, animal and human activities. **Cutting or mowing are a primary** means of spread along roadways when mowing occurs during the growing season (stem fragments), or in winter (ripe seed).



Identification

Plant - A perennial grass reaching heights of 15 feet. Dense stands develop from rhizomatous root systems with live stems and dead stems intermingled. Hollow stems are green in summer and yellow in winter.

Leaves - Dark green, grass-like elongated foliage that is at most 1½ inches wide. Leaf sheaths are typically retained on culms (stems) into winter even if leaves drop from dead culms.

Flower - Dense bushy panicles of purplish or golden flowers range from 8 to 20 inches tall. Bloom Time - late-August to September Seed and Fruit - Large, dense seed heads become grey-brown. Hairy seeds give heads a fuzzy, fluffed appearance. Seeds persist on stems throughout the winter.

Root - Extensive underground rhizome system that can grow 10 feet in a single growing season. Rhizomes can grow through structures and pavement.

Management Chemical management is recommend as the

primary control method. Mechanical - Cutting or mowing will not kill

plants or eradicate infestations, but can be used to facilitate herbicide application. **Do not mow if seeds or green stems are present.**

Chemical - Late summer/early autumn herbicide applications to foliage or to cut stems are best and repeat treatments in subsequent seasons are likely necessary. **Fire** - Controlled burns can be used to remove biomass and facilitate herbicide application.











Effective herbicide formulations: glyphosate, imazapyr (preferred), or combination of both.