

OUTCOMES DOCUMENT

Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Partner Meeting

Meeting in person at the [Dunn County Fish and Game Clubhouse at 1600 Pine Ave, Menomonie, WI 54751](#)

Thursday, May 27th, 2021, 2 – 4 pm

LCIP Identity Statement: LCIP is a civic non-profit that reaches goals toward invasive species awareness and control efforts by using Civic Governance (CG) to educate and organize the civic infrastructure needed to govern for the common good.

Meeting Purpose: To give an organizational update, discuss 2021 project statuses, review the financial sustainability, and continue to build up the LCIP region's capacity for invasive species education, outreach and control through partnerships.

In person: Doug O-P., Judy Z., Dick D., Jim A., Lee S., Mame G., Sue C., Susan B., Dave W., Chris G., Lindsey K.

On Zoom: Brad L., Sherry J., Kathy S., AJ L., Shelby (from Rob Stafsholt's office)

I. Approval of Outcomes Document from April 22nd, 2021 Board Meeting

April outcomes were approved as written.

II. Negotiate Agenda

Agenda was approved as written.

III. Individual Check-Ins on progress towards meeting LCIP Goals (5 mins or less)

Doug: Is working on an article on the benefit or deficit of applying herbicides and plant growth regulators versus allowing invasives to find their own balance. He is looking for input/editing from all members.

Judy: Giving away jack-in-the-pulpit plants that she has grown from seed.

Dick: Found garlic mustard along the roadside in Grant Township in Dunn County for the first time. He has been hinge-cutting trees for rabbit habitat and to keep deer away, which is working well.

Jim: Shared his perspective on Dunn County's and UW Extension's activities and the importance of interactions with other counties regarding invasives work.

Lindsey: Talked about Landmark Conservancy's work in the area and how they work with landowners with the difficulty being when there is a change of ownership. Surprisingly, new/2nd generation owners often want to be more involved in conservation. Dunn County has done a community assessment to find out what concerns are important to the community and how to progress forward addressing these concerns, especially how to help them build a stronger infrastructure for groups to keep these groups viable. They are interested in working with LCIP on landowner outreach and monitoring.

Lee: Talked about the problem that, when one invasive is eliminated, then another invasive might emerge. He compared the control of garlic mustard vs wild parsnip. Doing selective control is important so as not to hurt native habitat. Performing trials through an experimental permit on the herbicide TerraVue on the carrot family plants. Highway control on wild parsnip is often only done every other year, which helps keep costs down. Dunn County is out treating all their county roads. St. Croix and Chippewa County have a good handle on the costs of managing these invasives. Their findings show a 24-60% reduction in cost over just mowing. Wild chervil control was also discussed. The town of Colfax in Dunn County has seen an 80% reduction in Wild chervil.

Mame: Talked about bagging her garlic mustard and how it can get quite smelly if it's not discarded in a timely way. Discussion ensued on how to handle invasives in connection with the IMP program, and whether counties/townships should handle it or have people take more of an active role.

Sue: Talked about her activities pulling garlic mustard, spotted knapweed, yellow rocket along with buckthorns this fall with the Scouts in Lake Wissota State campground where she works as their camp host and volunteer master naturalist. She did a presentation for the local Master Gardeners group that she will share with LCIP.

Susan: Is on the third year of clearing buckthorn with goats (Munch Bunch) at South Park in River Falls. She also dealt with some wild parsnip along the roadside.

Dave: Shared a calendar that includes invasives education and provides ideas for control. He told a story about his prickly ash population and how they re-grow when cut since they have a big root system. He stated that prickly ash is a native "annoyance" species.

Sherry: Down to one crutch and will be back out working on community plant control and enrichment projects this summer.

AJ: Island Chain of Lakes work as well as other projects are going on with biocontrol with purple loosestrife beetles.

Brad: Still on track to plant the prairie at 3M that the farmer tenant will prepare. The seed is local native grasses and flowers from Prairie Moon Nursery.

Chris: Got twelve boot brush signs and gave some to DNR as well as other public land sites. Requested full kiosk boot stations from a WDNR grant for CISMAs to install through Play-Clean-Go. Union Township in Eau Claire County hosted a workday with Landmark Conservancy and LCIP to clean up garlic mustard that had over 20 people attend. Had a site visit with Woodland Park which used to be called Deepwood Ski near Wheeler and didn't find many invasives and that the owners will be involved with outreach and events that will partner with LCIP. Helped to host three events with the Wisconsin Women Woodland Owners program with Lauren, all of which went well and gained a lot of interest. Susan commented on how good the workshops were. Will be hosting a public land user group and Chippewa County Land Conservation and Forestry Management workshops this summer. Met with the Chippewa County highway dept., who seem to be a leader in the region on tackling invasives. A long discussion to see where they were at and what are their next steps. They will be doing cost comparisons on management and getting that information to LCIP in the fall. Next week will be performing a walkover for the Wissota Woods Preservation Association common areas. Has a Saturday workshop for woodland owners and managers on June 5th at Blue Ox Farm. Dr. Mark Renz from UW Weed Science, Steffen Excavating will be demoing at FECON mower, the landowners will talk about their management with cattle, LCIP will demo practical landowner equipment and 4-Control will demo equipment and herbicide calibration.

IV. Address Governing Issues

- 2021 projects, programs, and events (Chris)

The LCIP Board hosted a visioning meeting the day after the April meeting and was successful with full board attending and one other member. The vision came of expanding the partnership roles with the previous project partners into active partners that have a regional goal of environmental impact, awareness and action. LCIP looks to initiate that effort soon. Many more events and gatherings will take place out there throughout the year.

- Invasives Monitoring Program update and next steps (IMP Committee)

Hosted two in-person field identification trainings at Putnam and Owen Parks that most IMP volunteers attended. Follow up mentor meetings are pursuing and another in-person training/tour will take place in late summer. About 20 people are mapping and monitoring this year. Some local action is taking place by townships and county highway departments getting requests for management from their local citizens.

- DNR WMA Woodland Landowner Project update and next steps (WMA Com.)

Over twenty landowners have signed up already for the June 5th workshop that Dr. Mark Renz will be coming from Madison to speak. The workshop will be four hours and talk about many aspects, techniques and equipment possibilities to manage wood lots.

- Galloway Creek Restoration Project (Chris)

Galloway Creek Restoration Project launch was last Tuesday. A large pile of common buckthorn and 19 bags of garlic mustard were pulled or about 660 pounds which the city picked up for disposal. Six people showed up and ¼ acre was cleaned up that contained garlic mustard, dame's rocket, common buckthorn, greater celandine and Tartarian honeysuckle. There will be many more workdays set up to push through the site.

- Financial report (Brad)

Brad went through the report and didn't have many questions. LCIP will likely be applying to the Pablo Foundation for additional funding. Taxes have been sent in. The second round of PPP funding has been used up. LCIP will look to apply for forgiveness of the funding when available. There still is need for sustainable funding to come in to keep the organization running as is.

V. Identify Next Steps

- Next meeting is on **Thursday, June 24th from 2 - 4 PM** on Zoom and in person (RSVP to Chris if attending)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83152111392?pwd=eDIyYUtuRFpWdkFUVE13Sm1aTmludz09>

Meeting ID: 831 5211 1392 Passcode: 012345 Phone: 312-626-6799

Looking into having the next meeting in Pierce County near River Falls. See the June agenda for the location. Then going to Chippewa County near Lake Wissota for the July 22nd meeting. An August 26th meeting in Eau Claire County in Altoona or at Beaver Creek Reserve near Fall Creek. Some of these summer meetings will have optional field trips either before or after the meetings.

V. Evaluate the Meeting and *Work Plan Objectives*

- Meeting score average was (1-5 scale) _____
- Did we achieve the meeting purpose?
- What worked?
- What were the gaps?
- Steps to close the gaps?
- Discuss action items for next meeting

No meeting evaluation was commenced since time was out.