

OUTCOMES DOCUMENT

Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Partner Meeting

Meeting in person at: [W8608 760th Ave, River Falls, WI 54022](#)

Thursday, June 24th, 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.

Present or Online: Susan B. (host), Judy Z., AJ L., Daniel (watercraft inspector for Beaver Creek Reserve), Joe C. (City of River Falls resident), Greg & Nancy S. (neighbors), Leslie & John W. (River Falls township residents), Sue C., Brad L., and Chris G. Introductions were commenced.

I. Approval of Outcomes Document from May 27th, 2021 Board Meeting

Outcomes were approved as written with no changes.

II. Negotiate Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

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

Susan: Asked a question regarding wild parsnip whether mowing before seeds develop is an effective strategy. The group responded that it is not since the plant will flower fairly fast after mowing and still may produce seeds. Was excited to hear that many county highway departments are doing special herbicide and plant growth regulator spraying on highways now. Mentioned that it is important to attend township meetings and give input on what plants are causing issues. She is continuing her work on her property to slow the common buckthorn spread.

Judy: Spoke about her initial involvement with LCIP via Amur cork tree removal and ongoing efforts to control new seedlings that show up from the neighbors mature fruit-bearing trees. She is also continuing her work to rid her property of common buckthorn.

AJ: Working on aquatic invasive species outreach. Is training others including summer volunteers and staff. Purple loosestrife beetles are normally raised and released locally that go after loosestrife which is a wetland invasive is not happening this year. This is the first year in over 20 that this program is not active. They will shoot to restore the program next year.

Daniel: He drives to the different boat landings (Watercraft Inspector) to educate boaters about what they might be spreading on their boats and trailers. He has been training under AJ's supervision.

Greg & Nancy: Had questions on wild parsnip and common buckthorn control and precautions. Chris answered them. LCIP also mentioned that there are many broadcast herbicides to use on wild parsnip like Escort XP and to contact 4-Control, Inc. for more education on what to do.

Joe: Has been in the battle against invasive species with Susan for a while. He has noticed that using 2-4D can cause vapors that can kill some garden plants. He suggested to read the product label and MSDS sheets of every herbicide you use.

John and Leslie: Bought a new property and actively managing it for invasive species that they found on it. Mentioned that you should not plant native black walnut trees since they are so aggressive. They would be available to host a field day this year if LCIP is able to do so.

Sue: Will be starting with spotted knapweed pulls at Lake Wissota State Park. This will be her fifth year of pulling it. She is also spraying poison ivy around the campgrounds and trails, which has growing faster than normal this year. She is hosting the July LCIP meeting at the park.

Brad: Gave an update for 3M. They tilled the 'dead' part of the prairie and broadcasted prairie seeds. They have been dealing with black locust, common buckthorn, and bush honeysuckles on the over 400-acre property in Menomonie that includes both woods and farmland. He has an intern that will be working on a variety of things. 3M will be clear-cutting their locust trees and then spraying them when they regrow. Asked if Chris could come out for a site visit to give an updated assessment of areas that contain invasive species.

Chris: Hosted a workshop in Chippewa Falls for many land conservation, forestry and park staff along with many park volunteers that was very successful. Has been out doing many site walkovers around the region. LCIP Facebook page and LCIP website have regular information and a lot of activity. Working with an LCIP member to help the Plymouth United Church of Christ (Eau Claire) for a demo that involves many volunteers and a grant. Setting up other presentations for community organizations. Setting up a Boyceville Elementary School walk and talk in early July. Mentioned that PlantNet is a phone app for phones to identify roadside plants, also PlantSnap, and PictureThis work if you don't have a field guide with you.

IV. Address Governing Issues

- 2021 projects, programs, and events (Chris)

Looking at setting up more Women's Woodland Owners events thru Lauren Larsen and another WMA workshop. The following three programs will be the focus for the remainder of the year. Volunteer engagement has been down, but there should be an increase of engagement when the weather cools down.

- Invasives Monitoring Program update (IMP Committee)

Continuing with 20 people monitoring roadside plants. Each volunteer now has a bag full of materials and training on how to monitor and get the word out to their local townships. Every volunteer now has a mentor to work with about questions on mapping. Looking for members in Pepin County, which is the only county that does not have a volunteer. Mentors will be meeting with volunteers each month and as needed to keep the volunteers on track to map more invasive locations than last year.

- DNR WMA Woodland Landowner Project update (WMA Committee)

The first workshop was held on June 5th was a success that had 24 people attend. The demonstrations were on herbicide calibration, invasive species tools and techniques, forestry mowing with a Fecon mower, and using prescribed grazing forest areas with highland cattle.

The attendees had a lot of questions, engaged with all the presenters and the landowners. They were excited for the next workshop to be held at the other landowner property that is receiving

herbicide trials. There will be another committee meeting taking place in July to figure out logistics.

- Galloway Creek Restoration Project (Chris)

The project has begun with a work event with the Menomonie Young Professionals. The funding is now available to start hiring contractors and getting materials to the neighbors. A regular scheduled work event will be scheduled in September. There have been photos being taken on a regular basis to show the progress of the project over time.

- Financial report (Brad)

Brad gave the report with a few questions answered. Chris gave the news of the most recent sustainable funding for 2021 and into 2022. The group cheered and were energized for the work ahead. The second draw of the PPP funds has been forgiven.

V. Identify Next Steps

- Next meeting is on **Thursday, July 22nd from 2 - 4 PM** on Zoom and in person at [Lake Wissota State park](#) (Riverview shelter) Tour of butterfly garden after the meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89342240494?pwd=b0p3N0NDNFF5WFhvT2h2RFU0LzBNdz09>

Meeting ID: 893 4224 0494 Passcode: 012345 Dial: 312 626 6799

August meeting will be in Eau Claire County

V. Evaluate the Meeting and *Work Plan Objectives*

- Meeting score average was (1-5 scale) 4.78

Did we achieve the meeting purpose? Yes

What worked? Questions and answers throughout the meeting

What were the gaps? Having more board members and members present or online

Steps to close the gaps? Contact members to attend next meeting

Discuss action items for next meeting: Each attendee will work on tasks and report out and see how partnerships can occur.

Susan positive, Judy positive, AJ 5.0, Daniel 5.0, Joe 4.0 have more visual display, Nancy – impressed; Leslie & Joe helpful, Sue looking forward to next meeting, Brad 5.0, Chris 4.9 appreciates new faces.