

OUTCOMES DOCUMENT

Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Partner Meeting

Meeting in person at: [Lake Wissota State Park \(Riverview shelter\)](#)

Thursday, July 22nd, 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: Sue C., Susan B., Brad L., AJ L., Jim A., Lia L., Dick Barrickman, Mary S., Dick D., Judy Z., Chris G.

I. Approval of Outcomes Document from June 24th, 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)

Sue C.: Picked 8 bags of spotted knapweed at the pollinator garden the group will be touring after the meeting. She has also worked with the park maintenance staff to spray the poison ivy she has found in the campground. Would like help advertising for her upcoming events at both state parks in Chippewa County to Chippewa County citizens.

Susan B.: Took a visit to Ohio and found many Russian Olive trees. The poison ivy in Ohio is very large and grows up the trees. She was encouraged to find a pollinator garden at a rest stop that had a lot of active wildlife using it.

Brad L.: Justin Kobernick is scheduled to do a lot of tree and brush cutting with the intent of 3M then doing re-planting of native trees and shrubs in the future. Spotted knapweed is being found in many areas. Chris will be visiting 3M to advise regarding what 4-Control needs to be spraying. 3M is hoping to convert their 10 acres to the east of their main parking lot into prairie or a pollinator area. Chris commented that Andersen Windows in Menomonie has created a prairie area on their company land and to contact them.

AJ L.: He is focusing on transitioning out of his job he has had at Beaver Creek for the past six years and passing the torch to Lia Landowski. The group thanked him for his service and wished him the best for his future endeavors. He will stay in the area for now and continue to help out LCIP. They now have bat monitor equipment that uses a microphone hooked up to a smartphone, which picks up a bat's high-pitched call and is then able to identify the species of bat flying around.

Jim A.: Has a concern about wild parsnip and is attempting to talk to county folks about doing better control.

Lia L.: Has a lot of experience with spraying/controlling garlic mustard from her background in many local jobs. She is doing ongoing research for her master's degree at UW-LaCrosse in the flood plains of the La Crosse area where there is a gap in identifying the type of plants inhabiting

the flood plain there. She is finishing grad school in biology/aquatic sciences. She invited everyone to the local AIS Snapshot Day at the Dunn County Fish and Game in Menomonie on Saturday, August 21st from 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM.

Dick B: He is looking for someone to work with the Lake Wissota Lake Improvement Association to identify and control aquatic invasives. He is the new President of the organization.

Mary S.: This is her first time at an LCIP meeting. She is involved in Ice Age Trail work and is concerned about keeping invasives out of the forests. Was happy to see the work LCIP and the Girl Scouts did in 2020 at Erickson Park is holding and providing an educational example of how to restore woodlands. She has monitored the Japanese knotweed growing along the Chippewa River on Hwy 178 and has seen success from Chippewa County's work controlling this invasive and would like to offer them praise for their work. She has learned to identify wild chervil, and now spotted knapweed, which she thinks may have arrived via the Interstate highway system and invaded onto the county roadway system. She wants to learn more about wild parsnip control. Chris says that Chippewa County is one of the most active counties in the region and they use a plant growth regulator which reduces growth, and they manage their mowing accordingly. Chris also said that Dunn County has focused on county road control and has done a lot recently. Chippewa County Highway Department are doing a cost-comparison of spraying vs. mowing for control where spraying reduces the need for mowing.

Dick D.: Praised Dunn County Highway Department for spraying the growing population of wild parsnip near his property. He commented on control of invasives versus environmentalism and the value and need for 4-Control's work. He is observing his new buckthorn growth and plants after control he had done in early 2020. When the buckthorn gets mature, he will have 4-Control, Inc. come back and treat it, so it doesn't produce viable seed. Toured the old Ferry Pit property near Colfax on June 5th with Jim A. He found that the property has a lot of honeysuckle growth there, which has yet to be controlled. The property has an interesting history, and its cleanup and restoration are a great success story of community action.

Judy Z.: She spoke with someone in northern Dunn County that has an orchard and objected to the amount of county roadside spraying and felt that the hazard of wild chervil is being overplayed. She said she has learned about using horticultural vinegar for unwanted plants which has a 25% acidity level and is around \$25 a gallon, which is used to spray directly on a plant to kill it but doesn't build up in the soil or affect nearby plants.

Lee Shambeau (4-Control) reported by Chris: He is looking for more places to experiment with the new TerraVue chemical which targets the carrot family. This product doesn't stay in the soil long and is a targeted, safer product with a possible use on wild chervil. Non-native phragmites were spotted by DNR in early July on Dunn County Hwy E near Iron Creek and controlled. Lee used a "wick" treatment using a glove saturated in chemical to swipe the plant instead of spraying. Chris will map the area.

Chris G.: He did a summer school program for Boyceville for ages 5 to 12 where he showed the trailer, took a tour of the school's property, and told of LCIP's activities which the students got very excited about. He is working with Chippewa County Land Conservation to book a second workshop in August and September. He has done some site visits, including the Town of Lafayette, who is focusing on how to prevent contractors from bringing in invasives for a new disc golf course they are building soon. A Menomonie United Church of Christ presentation was done by Lauren, which was well received. Volunteerism and energy have been slow over the summer, and he hopes it picks up soon.

IV. Address Governing Issues

- 2021 projects, programs, and events (Chris)

City of Menomonie is finishing its three readings of the nuisance plant ordinance revision on August 16th at 7 PM to add female Amur Cork trees and will be voting on it soon.

- Invasives Monitoring Program update (IMP Committee)

IMP is ongoing and reports are coming in. The twenty participants seem to be enjoying the work and meeting with their mentors regularly.

- DNR WMA Woodland Landowner Project update (WMA Committee)

Setting up a next workshop at Mame's place in September. Highland cattle have been used to control young buckthorn, honeysuckle and other young invasives after the forestry mowing happened at the Langworthy farm in June. Chris is continuing to monitor the sites with photos during site visits.

- Galloway Creek Restoration Project (Chris)

Funding is in place. LCIP needs to set up some contractors to remove some of the larger trees. The main goal is to demonstrate what can be done with such an overgrown area. UW Stout students and many others will be involved once the weather cools. He worked with Menomonie Young Professionals to open access to the area back in May. Chris will develop a letter that will be sent out to all surrounding properties as well as develop a flyer to be posted at apartments to gain new volunteers to help at the proposed weekly work events starting at the end of August. Publicity will be key to get community buy in. He is looking for volunteers to form a committee to get tasks scheduled and followed up on. No one volunteered at the meeting.

- Financial report (Brad)

Brad gave the report that summoned a few questions that were answered. Talk to Chris or Brad for details.

V. Identify Next Steps

- **Next meeting is on Thursday, August 26th from 2 - 4 PM on Zoom and in person at Plymouth UCC** (2010 Moholt Drive, Eau Claire, WI, 54703) Tour of invasive species project on site afterward
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82636914457?pwd=RHNVOXFNM3A2bm1JNmpUL0NUNEJRdz09>
Meeting ID: 826 3691 4457 Passcode: 012345 Dial: 312 626 6799

-Sue will be doing a nature hike on Aug14 & Sept 4 at 10 AM in Brunet Island State Park.
-September's meeting is planned to be in Pepin County. Chris will book the venue soon.
-Sue gave a tour of the fabulous pollinator garden that is adjacent to the visitor center after the meeting. There were many questions and positive comments about the work she had done and coordinated. The garden is a registered Monarch Waystation.

V. Evaluate the Meeting and *Work Plan Objectives*

- Meeting score average was (1-5 scale) Perfect 5!

Did we achieve the meeting purpose? Yes

What worked? Those attending appreciated the outdoor venue for the meeting and the meeting style of using Civic Governance

What were the gaps? A little hard to hear everyone

Steps to close the gaps? Move tables closer

Discuss action items for next meeting