



Maryland Invasive Species Council
July 19, 2007
Maryland Department of Agriculture
Annapolis, MD

Call to Order: ~9:50 a.m., Bob Tichenor

Additions to the agenda

Introductions

*Andrew P. Clark, Adkins Arboretum
Marc Imlay, MA-EPPC, MNPS

Marc Imlay, Sierra Club, MAEPPC
Chris Lockett, MDE
John Peter Thompson, MNLA
Bob Tichenor, MDA
Jil Swearingen, USFWS
*Karla Schaffer, MD DNR
Sarah Widman, MD DNR

*Jessica Furlong, Adkins Arboretum
Ruth Hanessian, MAPI
Mike Hemming, Eastern Shore Nurseries
Carol Holko, MDA

*indicates new attendee

Membership

None

Approval of Minutes, March 2007 meeting

Kerrie Kyde emailed corrections

Motion to approve minutes as corrected. Motion seconded and approved.

Updates & Discussion Topics:

MDA – Carol Holko, Bob Tichenor

- Emerald ash borer – eradication complete Friday the 13th of April, 2007
 - More than 24,000 ash trees ≥ 1 " dbh removed on nearly 14,000 acres
 - Prince George's County under federal quarantine as of June 1, 2007
 - Successful tree replacement program – 2000 bare root trees donated by Angelica Nursery, ~500 were picked up by homeowners; 50% off vouchers from American Plant Food, Inc., Eastern Shore Nurseries, Ed's Plant World, Green Fields Nursery
 - Surveys ongoing in 1½ - 2 mile buffer and statewide, purple prism traps, trap trees, outreach, citizen detectors, girdled trap trees set up near camping areas
 - John Peter Thompson has posted translation of Russian article on EAB in Moscow, <http://www.ipetrus.blogspot.com/2007/07/menacing-discovery-of-emerald-ash-borer.html>
 - MD DNR has banned private firewood in state parks
 - Andrew Clark camped at Assateague Park recently, questioned about firewood, golf cart came around offering firewood for sale, instructed to burn wood within 24 hours
- Fire ant – surveys just started
- Gypsy Moth –
 - 50K acres sprayed, 75K acres defoliated
 - Highest infestation in 10 years
 - Emphasize need for survey
 - Spraying more in areas not infested since early '90's
 - NJ, 320K acres defoliated, ~1/6 of forest resource
- DNR – Sarah Widman

- Invasive Portal off DNR home page
 - Toll free number to report invasives
 - Coordinated fact sheet
- Catfish
 - Blue catfish becoming a problem in James River, VA, estimated 75% of fish biomass, flathead catfish in upper bay
 - Hope to get authority to allow fishermen to keep catfish <10"
 - Native to U.S.
- Chinese Mitten Crab – 10 found in past several years
- Rusty, virile crayfish – found in Monacacy River, will change from “prohibited” to “don’t move” list
- New Zealand mud snail & Rudd will be added to regulations
- APHIS – Carol Holko
 - Fred Mann, MD SPHD, has moved to Riverdale; we will have acting SPHD until position is filled
 - *Sirex noctilio* found in Macomb County Michigan in July
- Update on wavy leaved basket grass, *Oplismenus hirtellus* – Marc Imlay
 - Handouts – photo, plants.usda.gov profile
 - Only reported from Maryland – North American record, 1999
 - Site based invasive plant control
 - 150-acre Little Paint Branch Park
 - EDRR – look for wlbgr and report
 - Hope to add to Federal Noxious Weed List
 - Sold in nursery trade
 - World Bank team - volunteer weed pulling day
 - Contact Marc to visit site
 - D.C. government Wildlife Management Plan – single biggest threat to wildlife is non-native invasive plants, drafting management plan

Invader of the Month – Group*

- August – change to wavy leaved basket grass, Kerrie Kyde ed. John Peter Thompson blog
 - Rest of year is set (see March minutes)
- Request to send out notices when IOM is posted
 * Thanks to Kerrie for taking this over and keeping them coming

NEWS AND NEW BUSINESS

Adkins Arboretum

- Invasive plant management, e.g. MAM, Japanese knotweed, etc.
- Would like information on native lawns, contact Sylvan Kaufmann
 - Needs to withstand traffic, minimal mowing
 - LBJ Wildflower Center
 - Moss lawns

John Peter Thompson

- ISAC coming to BARC – joint meeting with MISC?
 - Group agrees, need something to talk about - needs of state council, limits of national committee, introductions to show scope of groups
 - October 2 and 4, series of presentations
 - Wed. October 3 tour
 - Send site and topic suggestions to JPT, jpeter@behnkes.net by the end of July

- Serves on SSI Landscapes Committee – Partnership of Green Industry Council & LBJ Wildflower Center, working on consolidation of landscape standards - LEEDS, Firewise, Plantwise, EPA Ecotour Landscape Conservation Project

Chris Lockett

- Invasive alga, *Didymosphenia*, “rock snot” – found in TN and in VT, want to know distribution
- Asian clam - well-established in MD; using invasives as test to find PCB sources into Chesapeake Bay region; placed in cages and tested, Anacostia and Rock Creek

Ruth Hanessian

- Washington Post article on snakehead fishery in Potomac River

Jil Swearingen

- August 15, 16 MA EPPC Council meeting, posted on MISC Website Calendar
- Natural Areas Association – 2007 Annual Conference in Cleveland, visit <http://www.naturalarea.org>, 2008 annual meeting in Nashville will have invasives session, Jil is on organizing committee

Carol Holko

- Calendar and News items for Website – send to Carol, holkoca@mda.state.md.us
- Earth Gauge – Environmental Information for Broadcast Management
 - NISC awareness effort
 - Partnership between the National Environmental Education Foundation and American Meteorological Society
 - Free environmental and climate information tied to the 3-5 day forecast
 - Opportunity to include invasive species updates
 - <http://www.earthgauge.net>
 - Opportunity for MISC member to coordinate

Next Meeting

October – NISC event? TBA

Adjourn ~12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Carol Holko, Recording Secretary