

# Jackson, Lenawee and Washtenaw Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area Bulletin

October means apple cider, visits to pumpkin patches, and getting lost in corn mazes! Before you bring home any pumpkins or fall decorations that have been sitting outside, please give a once-over for insects or insect egg masses! You may see some black common buckthorn berries while you are out and about, please keep in mind these berries can cause gastrointestinal issues in pets and people if eaten in large quantities.

## Now is The Time to Research Management Techniques and Useful Products!

Just because summer is ending, it doesn't mean one should put away their gardening tools or herbicide. Rhizomatous plants (those with horizontal underground stems) like Japanese knotweed and Phragmites might have finished flowering and producing seeds, but as long as the leaves are still green, the plant is still transporting energy towards the roots. Injecting or wiping leaves with herbicide now, will allow gravity and the plant's own biology to efficiently transport the herbicide to the roots, and potentially kill it. When it comes to woody invasive species, the same principle applies in that nutrient transport occurs on the outside part of the tree trunk. Woody invasive management efforts often occur into the winter season as this transportation occurs year round. One can cut the stump, and apply herbicide immediately, ensuring the outer part of the stump is treated. You can also cut notches into the bark, and squirt herbicide in the notches.



An injector can be used to treat some species in fall, and cut stump treatment can be done from the end of summer through winter! Photo Credit: (l & m) Shikha Singh & (r) J. Miller

After invasive species removal comes the fun part, planning your garden for next year! Invasive species are opportunistic, and will take over newly cleared areas. Native plants are a great option to replace invasive species as they are evolutionarily adapted to the region, great for pollinator species, and beautiful! Now is the time to research invasive species prevention strategies to avoid new infestations in the spring. Look for weed-free mulch and soil, learn about new invasive species and new management techniques! If you put out bird feeders, research bird food that is weed-free, waste-free, lack undesirable fillers, or consider using shelled peanuts, sterilized nyjer seeds, cracked corn, or mealworms. You can also build or buy a stable bird feeder that won't spill seeds.

For more information:


Oseland, E. et al. 2020. Examination of commercially available bird feed for weed seed contaminants. *Invasive Plant Science and Management*, 2020; 13 (1): 14. [sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/03/200320132239.htm](https://sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/03/200320132239.htm)

### Upcoming Events

**November 10th**—Not MI Species seminar: Treat me right! Rules, regulations and best practices for controlling aquatic invasive species in Michigan's inland lakes. Virtual. (9am to 10am). Registration required:  
[register.gotowebinar.com/register/655046571361471243](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/655046571361471243)

**November 16th**—NAISMA webinar: Invasive Mussel Collaborative Tools and Accomplishments. Registration required:  
[naisma.org/event/webinar-november/](https://naisma.org/event/webinar-november/)

**December 6th**—Invasive Species Centre: Coming in Hot: Early Detection and Rapid Response Priorities in SE Michigan Virtual. (11am to 12pm). JLW Cisma presenter! Registration required:  
[us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/?url=MX\\_pIDESK5KXfs4K1cXg](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/?url=MX_pIDESK5KXfs4K1cXg)



### Website of the Month

Woody Invasives of the Great Lakes Collaborative is a one stop shop for information on 28 different woody invasive species, as well as information on managing them, and landscape alternatives  
[woodyinvasives.org](https://woodyinvasives.org)

### Invasive Species Spotlight—Common Buckthorn

- *Rhamnus cathartica* is native to Europe
- Leaves are alternate but sometimes opposite, with small teeth, pointed tip
- Black, clustered fruit
- Twigs have a small sharp thorn at the end
- Out-competes native forest floor plants by blocking sunlight and moisture which leads to erosion
- Ingestion of bark, leaves, and berries causes nausea and diarrhea



Photo Credit: S. Singh

### Native Species Spotlight—Blue Jay

- *Cyanocitta cristata* is a commonly found bird that is very loud
- Predominantly blue and white in color, with some black
- Lay 3-7 eggs and incubated by both parents
- Young leave nest 17-21 days post-hatching
- Particularly enjoy acorns, but will eat insects, nuts, seeds and grains



Photo Credit: S. Singh

If you have questions, please contact JLW Cisma Coordinator Dr. Shikha Singh at [shikha.singh@macd.org](mailto:shikha.singh@macd.org) or (517) 395 - 2089.

Visit our website for more events and resources: [jlwcisma.weebly.com](https://jlwcisma.weebly.com)



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