

Slow the Spread of Invasive Species



INVASIVE SPECIES are taking over our parks and natural areas making it difficult to enjoy nature.

Mud or burs on shoes, clothing, and pets spread invasive plant seeds, insects, and diseases.

WHAT HIKERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT INVASIVES

- Invasive species are those nonnative plants, animals, and diseases that can cause harm to the economy, environment, and human health.
- Invasive plants tend to reproduce and grow quickly making trails impassable.
- They harm wildlife and replace wildflowers.
- Invasive insects and diseases can kill trees.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Learn to recognize invasive species.
- Wear clothing and footwear that do not attract seeds.
- Stay on designated trails.
- Avoid areas infested with invasive species; "When in doubt, stay out!"
- Clean yourself, your equipment, and your dog before and after recreating.
- Properly dispose of soils, seeds, or plant parts from cleaning (e.i. in the trash)
- Educate others about invasive species.
- Volunteer to help control invasive species.



By National Park Service



Dame's rocket (invasive) By R. M. Case, Cal-IPC
By E. Czarapata



Japanese hedgeparsley (invasive) By E. Czarapata

Top photo: Mary McQuigging, Milwaukee County Parks Natural Areas Program



For more information on this and other recreational user groups (Anglers, Bicyclists, Hunters, Motorized Vehicle Users), visit the Recreation Best Management Practices at: <http://council.wisconsinforestry.org/invasives/>