

REGISTRATION FORM

SPEAKER BIOS

DEMONSTRATIONS

WEED BUSTERS

August 9, 2006

Fee: \$50.00 (*Dinner optional see below)
(includes one-year membership in MA-EPPC)

Name, Title and Organization

Address

Phone

Email

Please circle the group that you feel you represent:

- A. landscape industry
- B. home gardener/garden club member
- C. natural area/parks worker
- D. educator

Please make checks payable to:

The Friends of The Frelinghuysen Arboretum

Mail to:

Friends
The Frelinghuysen Arboretum
53 East Hanover Avenue
PO Box 1295
Morristown, NJ 07962-1295

Directions and accommodation information will be sent with confirmation. Cancellations received by July 7, 2006 will be fully refunded less a \$25 processing fee. If you are arriving on August 8th; we are meeting for dinner at www.minado.com at 8pm.

MENU SELECTION — Please circle

LUNCH

Carnivorous
Herbivorous

*DINNER (optional) Please add a separate check for \$20.00 made out to The Friends of The Frelinghuysen Arboretum
Carnivorous
Herbivorous

Carole F. Bergmann serves as Forest Ecologist/Field Botanist for the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) in Montgomery County, MD. She founded the citizen volunteer based WEED WARRIOR Program in 1999—480 citizens now work to remove non-native invasives from this 32,500 acre park system. Carole is president of the Maryland Native Plant Society and a Board Member of MAEPPC and the Maryland Invasive Species Council. Carole holds a Masters degree in Environmental Biology from Hood College in Frederick, Maryland.

Jan Ferrigan is Coordinator for Arlington Virginia's Invasive Plant Control Program under the Virginia Cooperative Extension and Arlington County Parks, Recreation and Community Resources. Jan coordinates volunteer and staff invasive plant control work in Arlington county parks and develops and produces educational materials related to invasive plants for use in Arlington. The <http://www.invasiveplants.org> website, a site devoted to invasive plant control news in the Washington DC area was co-created by Jan. President of the Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council, Jan has a MS in Wildlife Biology from Frostburg State University in Maryland and a B.A. from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario.

Marc Imlay, PhD, Conservation Biologist, Anacostia Watershed Society. In addition to being a Board Member for the Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council, Marc is Vice President for the Maryland Native Plant Society, and Chair for the Biodiversity and Habitat Stewardship Committee for the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club. Marc is working with these organizations to recruit and train volunteers to assist with invasive plant removal projects on parks and preserves in Maryland and elsewhere.

Oriental bittersweet, © 2004 Kathleen Rivera



Mary Travaglini is the Potomac Gorge Habitat Restoration Manager for The Nature Conservancy for which she is responsible for control of invasive exotic plants and restoration of rare groundwater invertebrate habitats in one of the most biodiverse land holdings of the National Park Service. Ms. Travaglini holds degrees in Natural Resources from Cornell University and Landscape Architecture from the University of Michigan. She draws from experiences working in conservation and landscape architecture on public and private lands throughout the country.

Jil Swearingen is Regional Invasive Species Coordinator for the National Park Service's National Capital Region in Washington, D.C. She has been Chair of the Plant Conservation Alliance's Alien Plant Working Group since 1995 and created and maintains the Weeds Gone Wild web page (<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>). For the web page, Jil produces fact sheets and other materials, maintains a national list of invasive plant species, and provides links to groups and resources. She is lead author of "Plant Invaders of Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas" published in 2002 and "Weed Busters Handbook" (2006). Jil is Vice President of the Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council and has an M.S. in Biology (Systematics, Evolution and Population Ecology) from George Mason University, Fairfax VA.

Ron Dean is Supervisory Biologist for the National Park Service's National Capital Region Exotic Plant Management Team for which he supervises biological technicians and volunteers on the control of identified invasive plants affecting the region's parks. Ron researches and selects appropriate control methods and conducts outreach and training. He has an M.S. in Marine Biology from University of North Carolina, Wilmington where he researched the ecological physiology of *Halophila johnsonii*, the only marine plant currently listed as "Threatened".

Participants are eligible for 3 CEU's from NJDEP

Illustrations courtesy of The Guild of Natural Science Illustrators. Visit them at www.gnsi.org.

I. Identifying Invasive Plants. Some invasive plants are easily recognized even by novices while others look very much like desirable native species and require closer inspection. Live specimens of a selection of common invasive plants will be displayed along with some look-alike native species that may be confused with them. Instruction will cover some basic plant features like recognizing leaf types (simple and compound) and arrangements (opposite, alternate and whorled), and tips for confidently recognizing the invasive species.

II. Controlling Herbaceous Plants. Individual herbaceous weeds can be relatively easy to manage. However, when they have established and spread over acres of ground, that may not be so. Control techniques specific to herbaceous plants and grasses will be discussed and demonstrated. Guidance will be provided for selecting the control methods appropriate for various situations.

III. Controlling Woody Plants. Woody plants pose a special challenge because of their physical size and their vertical, horizontal and subterranean growth. But there are ways to slay these green monsters while protecting desirable native species. Control techniques specific to woody plants will be discussed and demonstrated for a sample of shrubs, trees and vines available on site. Guidance on selecting the most appropriate method under various situations will be provided.

IV. Staying Safe When Managing Invasive Plants. A number of safety issues face the invasive plant manager – from sharp instruments to chemicals to environmental hazards like bees and poison ivy. You will learn how to recognize potential hazards, take precautions to protect yourself and the environment, and respond to accidents.

Please note: due to the hands-on nature of this conference, please wear walking shoes and bring sunscreen. You may wish to bring along a change of clothes and some insect repellent as well. The optional dinner is on site, and the dress code is entirely casual.

OVERVIEW

Invasive exotic species are an ever increasing threat to the world's biological diversity. This is a problem we all face since our quality of life depends on the health of our natural resources. In this sixth Mid-Atlantic conference, attendees will not only obtain useful background information on the issues surrounding this biological problem but will also:

- Get an overview of the extent of the invasive plant problem in the mid-Atlantic region
- Hear about local, state, federal and other programs being employed to address invasive plants
- Learn about effective methods for removing invasive plants from natural areas
- Meet other professionals and volunteers who are concerned about and involved in invasive plant management
- Take part in the Invasive Plant "Demolition Derby," during which field demonstrations will feature invasive plant ID, control and personal safety
- Receive the first "Weed Buster" Certification for successful completion of this workshop



WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Nursery and Landscape Professionals
 Natural Resource Specialists
 Managers of Parks, Preserves and Conservation Districts
 Invasive Plant Management and Restoration Specialists
 Extension Agents and Environmental Educators
 Public and Botanic Garden Managers and Supervisors
 Researchers, Students and Gardeners
 Garden and Outdoor Writers
 Golf Course and Recreational Land Managers
 Home Gardeners/Garden Club Members

SCHEDULE

- 9:00-9:30am** Registration / Continental breakfast
9:30-9:45am Welcome
9:45-10:10am Keynote Address, Jil Swearingen
"War of the Weeds: Fighting for Native Species and Natural Habitats"

We begin with an overview of invasive plant species affecting natural areas in our region, some impacts and threats, and some policies and organizations like MA-EPPC that are trying to address the problem.

- 10:10-10:30am** Carole F. Bergmann - *"32,500 Acres: Mobilizing Citizens to Battle Invasives in a Large County Park System"*

Learn from our 8 years of experience of reaching out to educate, encourage and train 480 citizen volunteers to direct their time and effort towards forest stewardship as WEED WARRIORS.

- 10:30-10:50am** Mary Travaglini - *"Educating Volunteers to Be Confident, Efficient & More Effective Than You"*

Educated volunteers are committed & enthusiastic. They effect positive change and educate others. Learn the tips and tools that worked to educate WEED WARRIOR volunteers in the Potomac River Gorge.

- 10:50-11:10am** Marc Imlay - *"How Our Monthly Invasive Plant Removal Project Restored Habitats in 40+ Maryland Sites"*

This non-native invasive plant removal reaches maintenance phase following major work efforts at each site through a 5 year long combination of mechanical and carefully targeted chemical control.

- 11:10-11:30am** Jan Ferrigan *"Complementary Invasive Plant Control"*

How to encourage volunteers & staff to work together and build a successful urban invasive plant control program? Jan will discuss challenges and success stories from Arlington, VA's invasive plant program at work in more than 35 urban parks.

- 11:30-12:00pm** Panel Discussion
12:00-1:00pm Lunch
1:00-1:30pm Form groups for Demolition Derby
1:30-4:30pm Invasive Plant Demolition Derby
4:15-4:30pm Return to Auditorium
4:45-5:00pm Conference ends - certificates issued
5:30-8:00pm Post Conference Activities (*optional*)
5:30-6:00pm Cocktails & Games
6:00-7:00pm Dinner
7:00-8:00pm Business meeting

MORRIS COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

WEED BUSTERS

INVASIVE PLANT CONFERENCE

FEATURING

DEMOLITION DERBY FIELD DEMONSTRATIONS

Participants are eligible for 3 CEU's from NJDEP in the categories of 3A Ornamental &



Wednesday August 9, 2006

The Frelinghuysen Arboretum
 53 East Hanover Avenue
 Morristown, New Jersey
www.arboretumfriends.org

presented by
 Mid-Atlantic Exotic
 Pest Plant Council, Inc.,
 The Friends of
 The Frelinghuysen Arboretum
 & The Morris County
 Park Commission



SAVE THE DATE: August 9, 2006

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