

# Phenological Invasive Species Calendar Project

Final Report

Submitted December 14, 2016

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## Project Description:

The Phenological Invasive Species Calendar is an education and outreach tool that reaches out to new audiences and delivers education that communicates the positive impacts of invasive species management on ecosystems in a very practical way.

Titled the *CAP Invasives Calendar: Community Action Plan to Combat Invasive Species*, the calendar is an open-share Google Calendar available to all PRISM member organizations for inclusion on their websites. The greater public can access the CAP Invasives Calendar as an additional layer on their own personal digital calendars and view it on their home computers and/or smartphones. Calendar entries were designed to provide phenological data and a link to *CAP Action Sheets*, which contain more detailed identification information and suggested management practices. Where applicable, CAP Action Sheets can provide links to websites, documents and training opportunities prepared by other PRISM members, allowing those who choose to “dig deeper” a chance to do so.

Throughout the development of the CAP Invasives Calendar and its related documents, it has been our goal to provide a tool that is useful for PRISM members to track invasive species in the lower Hudson River region and is accessible to lay people, empowering them to take action to combat invasive species, as well.

## Project Status:

During the information collection phase of the project, HHLT received eight invasive species sighting reports (of six invasive species) and a Scenic Hudson Weed Action Plan. The Weed Action Plan included phenological information and management suggestions for 24 species (including 3 of those sighted) and we found it enormously helpful in developing the structure of the calendar.

In order to launch a calendar with information that would be useful to the public, HHLT featured 13 invasive species prevalent in the lower Hudson River: Norway Maple, Garlic Mustard, Japanese Angelica, Japanese Barberry, Oriental Bittersweet, Black Swallowwort, Burning Bush, Japanese Honeysuckle, Purple Loosestrife, Japanese Stiltgrass, Mile-a-Minute, Multiflora Rose and Wineberry. These 13 include three species that were reported by PRISM members and

outlined in the Weed Action Plan: Garlic Mustard, Japanese Honeysuckle and Multiflora Rose. The other three species sighted by PRISM members (Scotch Broom, Garden Loosestrife and Border Privet) were not addressed in the Scenic Hudson Weed Action Plan and are noted in the calendar as *CAP Observations* only.

HHLT created 13 Community Action Plan sheets to correspond with the Google calendar listings. The Google calendar and Action Plan sheet drafts have been sent to PRISM experts (Eric Lind, Ed McGowan and Erik Kiviat) for review, with a requested deadline of Friday, January 6, 2017. Once HHLT has received the edits, we will update the sheets and link them to the CAP Invasives calendar.

### **Project Deliverables:**

The CAP Invasives Calendar is public.

Calendar ID: [hhlt.org\\_a8oj6tur7e0mctppn7gobjorso@group.calendar.google.com](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=hhlt.org_a8oj6tur7e0mctppn7gobjorso@group.calendar.google.com)

It can be embedded into a website or blog with the following code:

```
<iframe  
src="https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=hhlt.org_a8oj6tur7e0mctppn7gobjorso%4  
0group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/New_York" style="border: 0" width="800"  
height="600" frameborder="0" scrolling="no"></iframe>
```

The data collection form is also available online for PRISM members to use to submit sightings information. Presently, Matt Decker (form creator), Kathy Hamel, Nicole Wooten and Linda Rohleder have editing access to the form. Editors can be added or removed easily.

Form URL:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe7iIa7MX6QuB8X6HHfHZEQaESWU1KsdkTWqQCJaFPcTG\\_igw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe7iIa7MX6QuB8X6HHfHZEQaESWU1KsdkTWqQCJaFPcTG_igw/viewform)

### **Final Report Attachments**

Excel Spreadsheet of CAP Invasives Calendar data

CAP Action Sheet Drafts (13)

JPG Photo Files of Featured Invasive Species and Copyright Information

Project Budget and Actual Expenditures