

WNY PRISM Fall Partner Meeting

Agenda

1:00 pm: Program Updates

- ❖ WNY PRISM Field Crew
- ❖ Aquatic Programs
- ❖ Education and Outreach
- ❖ Special Projects – Early Detection & Surveys

2:00 pm: Break

2:10 pm: Planning Session

- ❖ Early Detection Updates
- ❖ Prioritization
- ❖ Species Tiers & Rankings





WNY PRISM FIELD CREW

2020 Season

2020 Crew Assistance Program Projects

- Received 21 requests from 14 partners in January 2020.
- The Crew participated in 11 of those projects from June to September 2020.
- Managed 11 acres for 6 projects (species include knotweed, *Phragmites* and woody species).
- Surveyed 600 acres at 4 sites.



2020 CAP Partners



CHAUTAUQUA
WATERSHED
CONSERVANCY



BUFFALO AUDUBON
— SOCIETY —



Survey and iMap Summary

- Used Samsung 10" tablets and ArcGIS Collector to collect survey and management data for the first time.
- Surveyed 846 acres at 10 sites.
- 780 entries in iMap (includes points, lines and polygons).



Other Projects

- Early Detection projects.
- Tifft Nature Preserve Mosquito Junction Project.
- CWMA Sites.
- Long standing projects:
 - Seneca Bluffs.
 - Riverwalk Trail.
 - College Lodge.
 - Rosche Preserve.
 - ECSWCD.





Stay Tuned for the 2021 Crew Assistance Program!

Lucy Nuessle, Terrestrial
Projects Manager

nuesslm@buffalostate.edu



WNY PRISM



WNYPRISM8



AQUATIC PROGRAMS

Boat Inspection & Aquatic Species

Watercraft Inspection Stewardship Program

- Memorial Day through Labor Day
- 19 Launches in 6 Counties
- 9,402 Hours
- 2,595 informational items and 592 promotional items were handed out.

Total Inspections:
21,661

Total AIS Interceptions:
1,307

Agreement Percentage:
89%

Previous Steward Contact:
78%

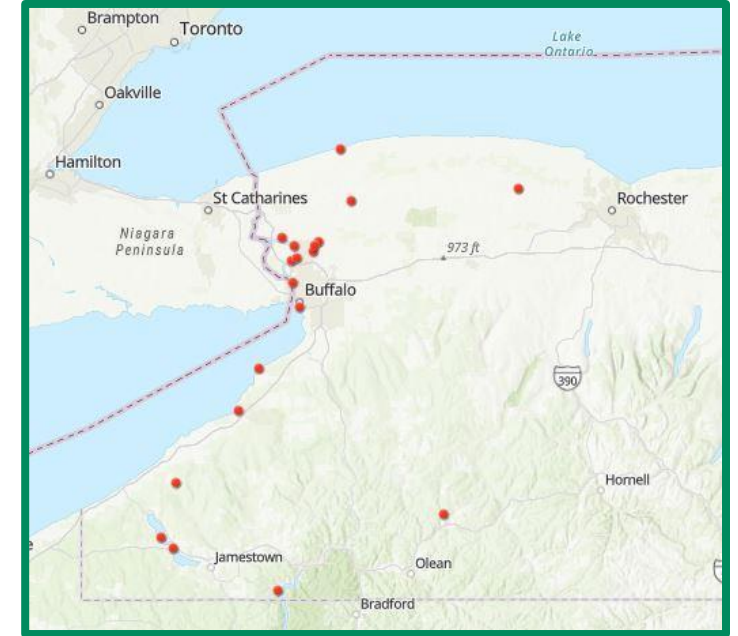
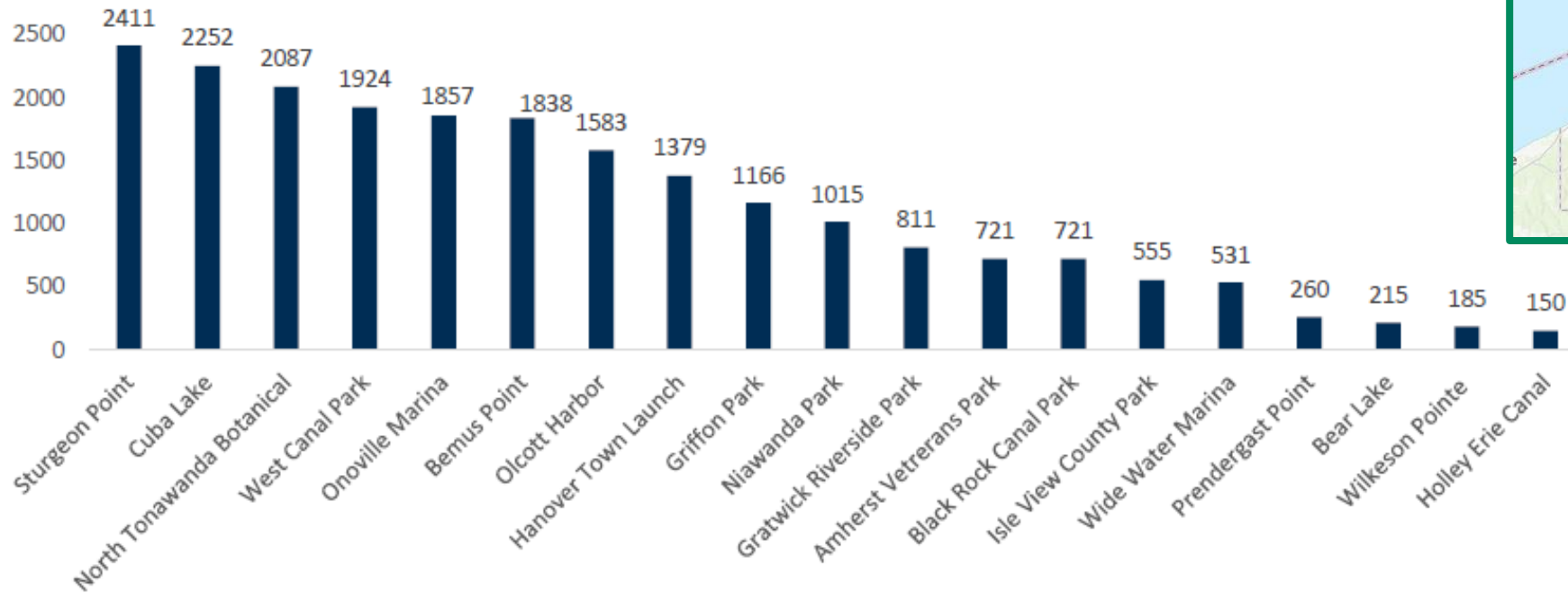
Average Inspections per Day:
25

Total Interactions:
53,257



Watercraft Inspection Stewardship Program

Total Inspections per Launch

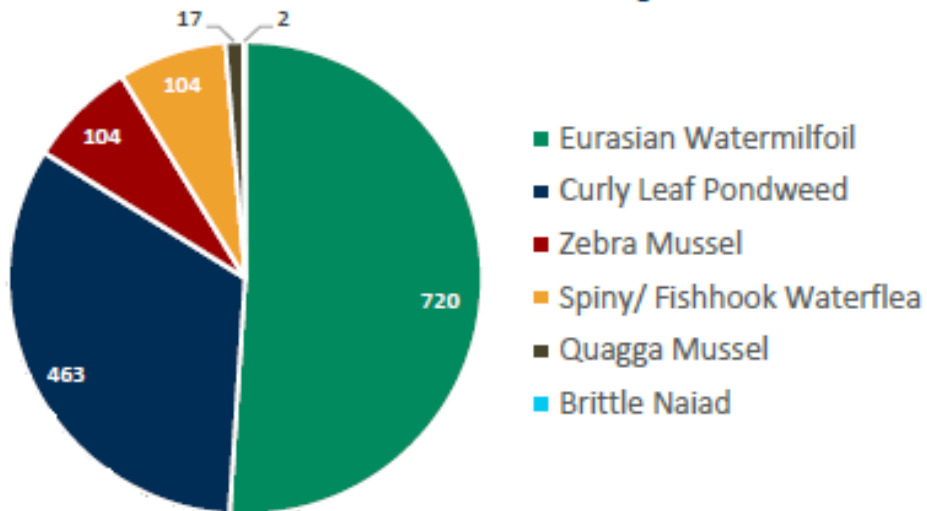


Boat Launch Locations



Watercraft Inspection Stewardship Program

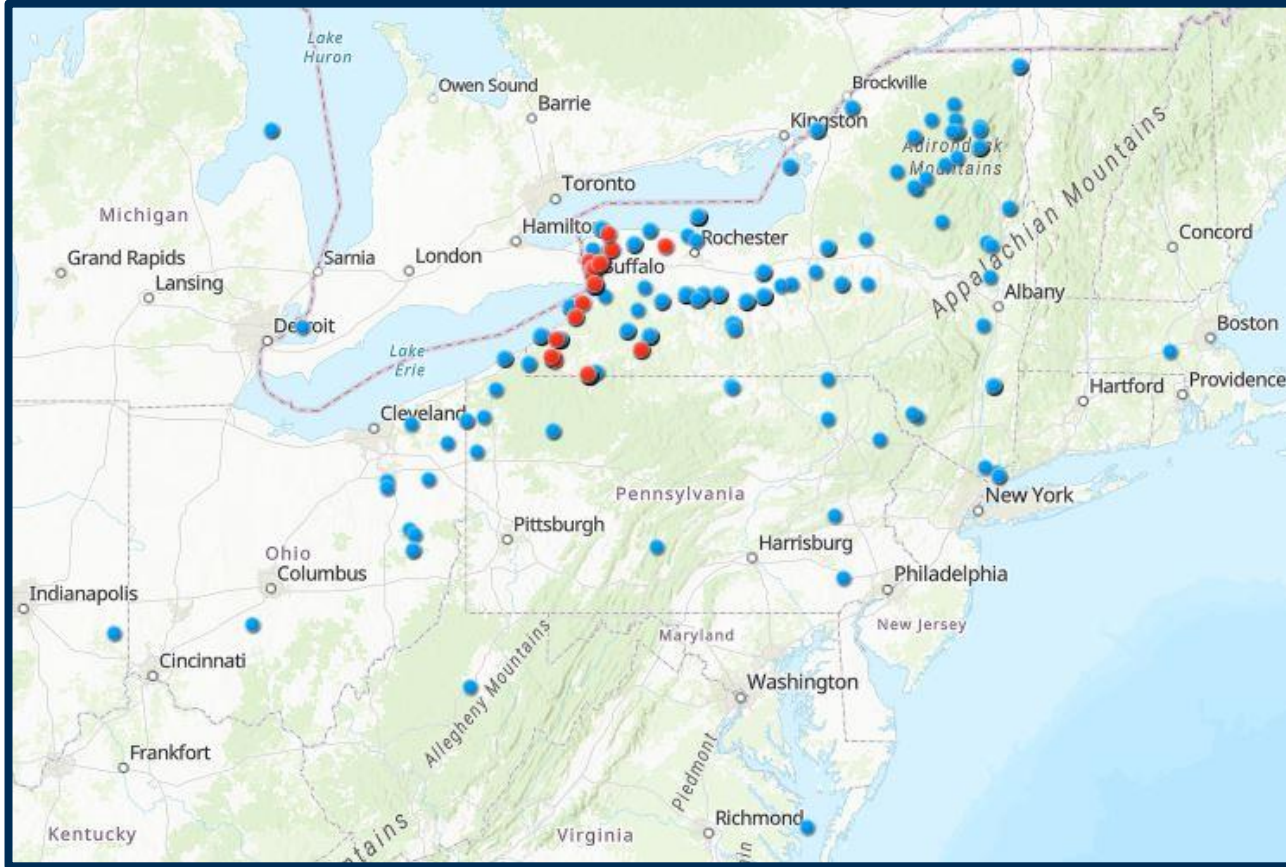
AIS Interceptions



- The most common organisms detected were native (2,332 vs. 1339)
- Based on total inspections
 - 1.5% of launching watercraft had invasive species present
 - 13.6% of retrieving watercraft had invasive species present
- Highest % invasive species (retrieval) was Bemus Point at 70.1% , second was Bear Lake at 54.5%.
- Lowest % invasive species (retrieval) was Griffon Park, Widewaters Marina and Wilkeson Pointe, each with 0%.



Watercraft Inspection Stewardship Program



- Stewards ask Boaters where they've launched their boats prior to launching (within two-weeks), and where they are heading next.

Blue points are locations where incoming watercraft launched within two-week prior to launching in WNY.
Red point are WNY PRISM Launches.



European Frog-bit



- Buckhorn Island State Park, Grand Island
 - Boat Stewards assisted NYS OPRHP with the removal of European frog-bit over the course of 5 days.
 - WNY PRISM removed 2,727.5 pounds of frog-bit, a small amount compared to the over 20,000 pounds removed by NYS OPRHP's Aquatic Strike Team.
- Harwood Lake, Franklinville
 - European frog-bit was found at Harwood Lake in 2019, but it was only partially surveyed.
 - WNY PRISM returned in July 2020 to complete a full survey – 1.07 acres of frog-bit was found.
 - Two large garbage bags were removed from the area adjacent to the launch, but additional efforts will be necessary to address the full population.



Water Chestnut

- Water chestnut surveys were conducted by Emily Harrower, WNY PRISM Lead Boat Steward with assistance from various other Boat Stewards from June 12 – August 13, 2020.
- Survey locations were selected based on known water chestnut locations, pathways, and the recommendation of the Southern Tier Water Chestnut Working Group.
- 17 sites were surveyed across Allegany, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties.
 - Only 1 new infestation was found – Conewango Flood Control Structure Site 16, an area upstream of a previously identified location.



Water chestnut at Elm Creek Flood Control Dam, Walker Road



Water Chestnut Working Group

➤ Working Group Members

- Audubon Community Nature Center, Cattaraugus County SWCD, Chautauqua County SWCD, Chautauqua Alliance, Chautauqua – Conewango Consortium, Chautauqua Lake Association, Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Roger Tory Peterson Institute, Silver Lake Association and WNY PRISM.

➤ Removal Efforts

- Audubon Community Nature Center, Chautauqua Outlet, Camp Timbercrest, Conewango Swamp WMA, Maplehurst.

➤ Survey & Monitoring

- Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 18; 9:00 – 10:30 am
 - Contact Andrea – lockeas@buffalostate.edu



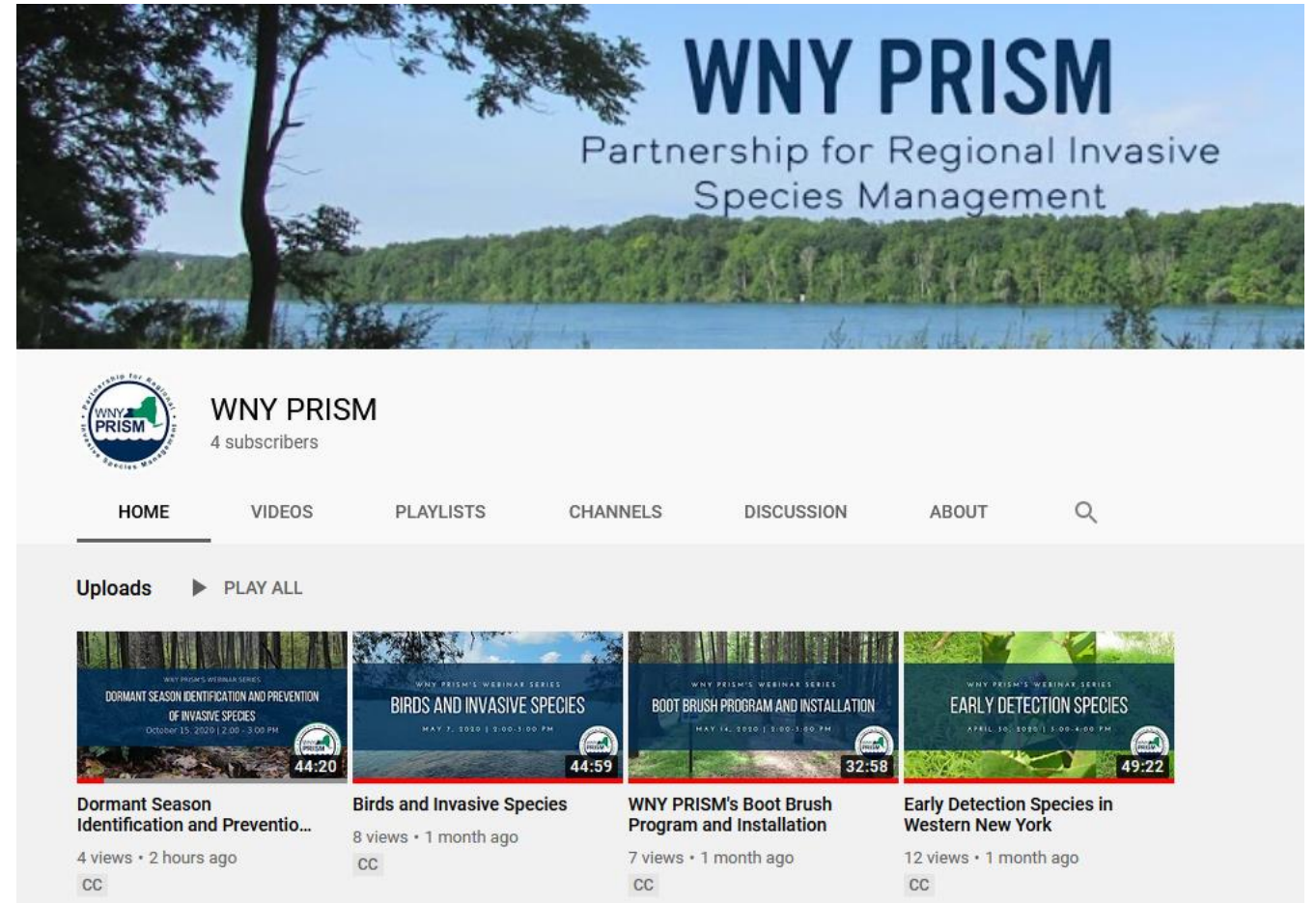


EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Socially Distanced Edition

Education and Outreach: Socially Distanced Events

- Four Part Spring Webinar Series
 - 101 Attendees
- Five Part Fall Webinar Series
- Invasive Species Awareness Week (June 7-13)
 - 3 Events & Enhanced social media use
- Guest speaker at several other events
 - M&T's Think Green Resource Group, Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners



Education and Outreach: Other Projects and Programs

- Four boot brush stations nearing completion
- Revived WNY PRISM's Education and Outreach Working Group
 - Co-development of new materials
 - Sharing strategies
 - Many WNY partners
- New outreach material coming soon!
 - Thank you to our seasonal employee, Danielle Dolan



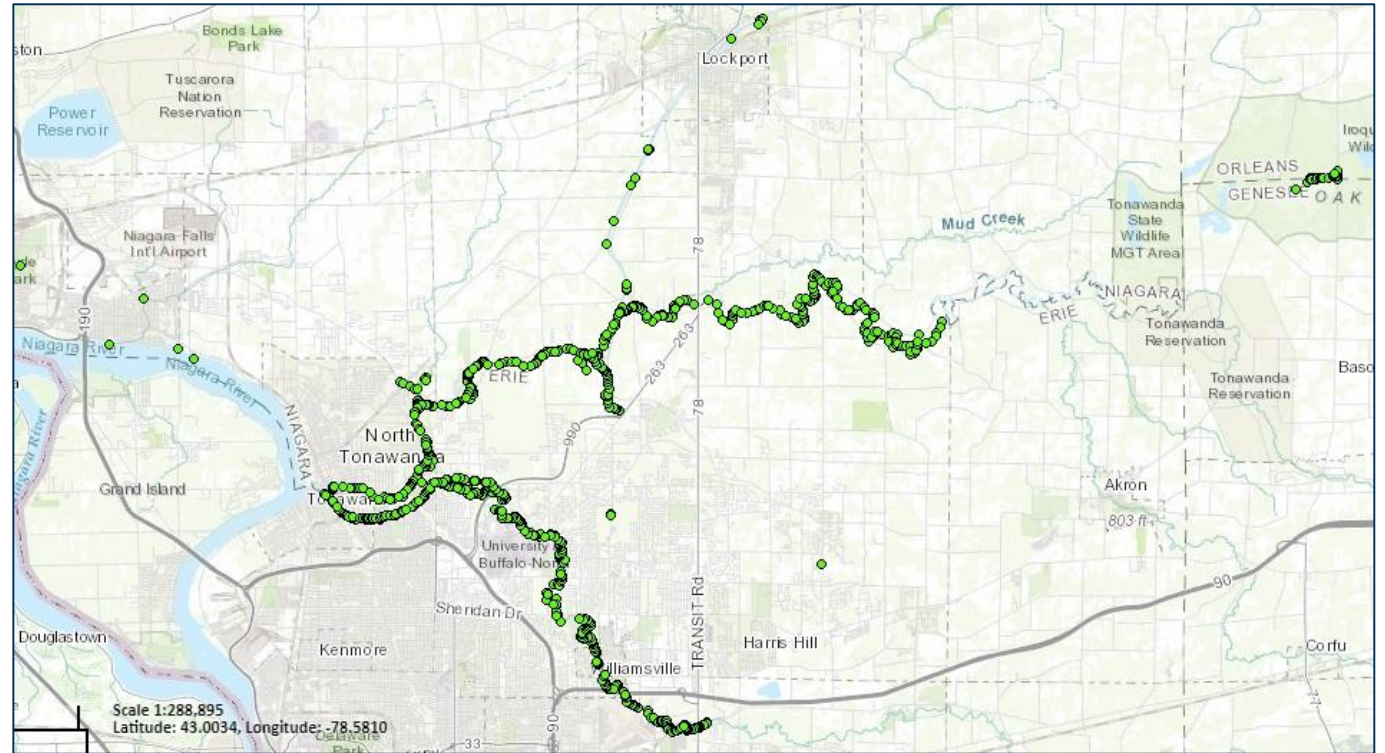


SPECIAL PROJECTS

Early Detection, Surveys and Monitoring

Yellow Flag Iris and Flowering Rush Surveys

- Survey technician Alex Krest focused on Tonawanda Creek, Ransom Creek, Ellicott Creek and the Erie Canal. Additional sites surveyed towards the end of the season.
- Conducted surveys in all 8 counties of the WNY PRISM region.
- Reported 868 yellow flag iris presences and 32 flowering rush presences in iMapInvasives.



DEC Invasive Species Rapid Response and Control Grant

- Determine presence and distribution of early detection species.
- Conduct rapid response management and continued monitoring of early detection species.
- Project focuses on slender false brome and Japanese stiltgrass.



Terrestrial Early Detection Surveys

- GIS technician Melissa Boglioli created habitat suitability models to prioritize survey efforts.
- Survey technician Amanda Gabryszak conducted terrestrial early detection surveys from May – September.
- Surveyed 45 sites and 91 miles of trail.
- 1 new site with slender false brome, 6 with Japanese stiltgrass found through survey efforts, based off habitat suitability maps.
- An additional site with Japanese stiltgrass was reported by the DEC- Vandermark State Forest.



Slender False Brome Management

- Continued to treat 6-acre Genesee County Park and Forest and 42-acre Letchworth State Park infestations. Previously used different treatment methods to establish BMPs, this year all areas treated with herbicide.
- Treated a 5-acre infestation at Inspiration Point, Letchworth State Park.



Japanese Stiltgrass Management

- Continued herbicide treatment at 3 sites and added 2 new treatment sites.
- Monitoring and manual removal at 8 sites, most along Cazenovia Creek in West Seneca and East Aurora. Removed over 27 bags of plants.
- Partner assistance: manual removal at 2 sites, herbicide treatment at 3 sites.



Additional Early Detection Efforts

- Water Lettuce: New infestation found at Hyde Park Lake. About 730 plants were removed during 3 different survey and removal days.
- Water Hyacinth: New infestation at Buckhorn Island State Park. NYS Parks carried out manual removal of plants.
- Mile-A-Minute: SUNY Brockport carrying out survey and management efforts in Oak Orchard.

