



2023 Annual Report



Amur corktree, Missouri Botanical Garden

Mission

To reduce the impact of invasive plant species in the Midwest.

A year in review

Over the last year, our organization has seen continued growth in a variety of areas. We have delivered invasive species information and resources to much larger audience and contributed to the expansion of the Public Gardens as Sentinels against Invasive Plants initiative. We have two new projects taking off this year that will increase invasive plant early detections in both coastal and high priority forests. These projects will also provide opportunities for us to share the latest guidance on managing these plants. In addition, we have received funding from the North Central IPM Center to evaluate and improve the accessibility of our outreach resources and look forward to delivering our resources to a broader, more diverse audience. We appreciate all of you who support MIPN and partner with us as we continue to prioritize increasing awareness and cross-boundary coordination to address invasive plants in the Midwest.



Outreach & Education

2023 saw a huge growth in our outreach. MIPN delivered invasive species information and resources to over 750,000 individuals and organizations across the Midwest.

We offered 10 new webinars on emerging Midwest invasives that have already been viewed over 1,300 times. We also updated our aquatic and terrestrial “Keep-a-Lookout” flyers to increase identification and reporting of priority invasive plants.

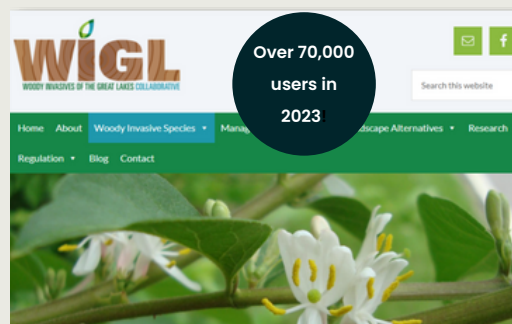
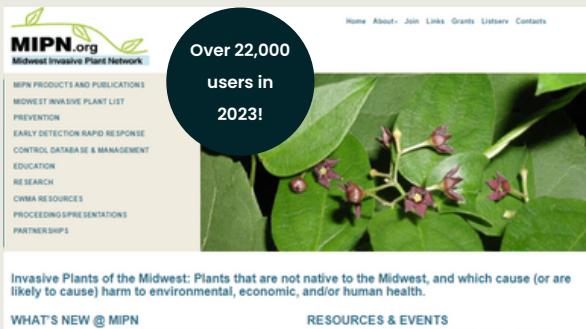
Webinar recordings are available at MIPN’s YouTube channel.

Download or purchase MIPN publications at mipn.org/publications.

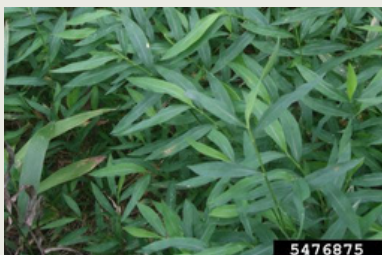


You can stay updated by following MIPN on Facebook, Instagram, or X, subscribing to our listserv, YouTube channel and/or subscribing to our quarterly newsletter. Visit MIPN.ORG

MIPN manages two websites. MIPN.org connects you to all of MIPN’s invasive species information, events, and resources. The Woody Invasives of the Great Lakes Collaborative (WIGL) contains a wealth of information on 28 priority woody invasive plants impacting the Great Lakes region.



In late 2023, MIPN issued a survey to invasive plants experts across the Midwest and asked them to identify early detection species for the region. 56 species or species complexes were named in the survey. Our team reviewed the list and selected species to highlight based on the frequency of naming in the survey and our professional expertise. We also indicate which species are of the greatest concern to each state/province. Learn more at mipn.org/edrr/early-detection-species/



Japanese stiltgrass, Callery pear, and Japanese chaff flower, were the 3 invasive plants of greatest concern based on our survey. Images from bugwood.org

Public Gardens as Sentinels against Invasive Plants

Public gardens and arboreta can play a unique and proactive role in assessing which non-native plants exhibit invasive tendencies. These institutions have the expertise and opportunity to observe the reproduction and spread of plants that are not well known and may not yet be available in the horticultural trade, and can make recommendations about these plants' capacity to become invasive based on their observations.

PLANT ALERT
Amur corktree
Phellodendron amurense
 ISSUED SEPTEMBER 2023

Amur corktree has been identified by the PGSIP working group as a plant of concern due to a growing number of botanic gardens and arboreta reporting on its ability to escape from cultivation. Public gardens across North America are sharing their horticultural expertise to document cases of plants escaping from cultivation. The goal of this alert is to increase awareness of gardens' observations about Amur corktree's behavior within their properties and to recommend actions to reduce its capacity to spread. For the most current data on this taxon, visit the [PGSIP website](#).

Data from PGSIP Gardens
 Nine out of 25 gardens have used the PGSIP standardized ranking system to rank Amur corktree according to its ability to escape from cultivation. A regional trend is emerging with gardens reporting from the following states: Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, New York, Massachusetts, Michigan, and Ontario (Canada). More gardens are encouraged to participate to further understand this trend. Click on the map below to see updated records and locations.

How gardens ranked Amur corktree

Ranking Category	Number of Gardens	Percentage of Gardens
Assessed as Invasive	3	12.3%
Invasive	2	7.7%
Potentially Invasive	2	7.7%
Watchlist	2	7.7%

Recommended Actions
 PGSIP urges these next steps for propagators, nurseries, landscape architects, invasive plant councils, and public gardens:

- Remove fruit-bearing trees
- Eradicate spontaneous populations
- Develop and evaluate cultivars for reduced seed fertility
- Plant and sell only non-fruit bearing Amur corktrees
- Increase public garden reporting on Amur corktree

References and Links

- PGSIP
- Woody Invasives of the Great Lakes Collaborative
- The Morton Arboretum
- EDDMaps

To date, 38 public gardens and arboreta across North America have shared observations of plants escaping cultivation, contributing to a database with over 880 plants records. These contributions have enabled PGSIP to begin issuing Plant Alerts. These Alerts are designed to raise awareness of ornamental plants that have been reported by participating gardens and to provide recommended actions to prevent their introduction and spread into the wider landscape.

While database access is restricted to participating gardens, we have a new publicly available [data dashboard](#) (see image below) that showcases plants most commonly reported by public gardens. There is an option to filter the data by state or region.

Learn more at pgsip.mortonarb.org/Bol/pgsip.

Data Dashboard
 Data last updated December 22nd, 2023

Filter by state or province:

Total number of public gardens participating: **38**

of Public Gardens: # of states/provinces:

Number of records: **880**

Garden Ranking

Ranking Category	Percentage
Invasive	17.5%
Potentially Invasive	7%
Watchlist	25%
Assessed as Invasive	50.5%

Most Commonly Recorded Taxa
 Drag the bar at the top of the chart to show less taxa on the chart

Taxa	# of Gardens Recording
Phellodendron amurense	12
Morus alba	7
Euonymus fortunei	7
Berberis thunbergii	6
Rhamnus cathartica	6
Akobia quinata	6
Ulmus pumila	6
Koeleruteria paniculata	6

MIPN Supporters

We would like to acknowledge and thank the organizations, businesses, and individuals who supported us in 2022 and 2023. Your contributions help us achieve our mission of reducing the impacts of invasive plants across the Midwest by sharing information and resources across borders. MIPN greatly values all of the individuals who support our work, but many prefer to remain anonymous.

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Financial & Administrative Support

The Midwest Invasive Plant Network is funded in part through grants from the North Central IPM Center, Richard King Mellon Foundation, Wisconsin Coastal Management, and the USDA-US Forest Service via our fiscal sponsor, The Morton Arboretum.

The Midwest Invasive Plant Network is now officially a 501c3 organization!
Our thanks to Indiana University Conservation Law Center for their assistance.

