



Texas' first statewide conference
on non-native invasive plants

November 17th and 18th, 2005
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
Austin, Texas.

Conference Goals

- Facilitate communication among the state's stakeholders who have a vested interest in non-native invasive plants;
- Help develop a coordinated response to address non-native invasive plants on a statewide level;
- Provide a venue for sharing information about prevention, early detection, control & management, restoration, and research; and
- Raise public awareness of the problems posed by non-native invasive plants in the state of Texas.

Professional Meeting

(November 17th & 18th, 2005)

The first two days of the conference will be a professional level meeting including plenary, concurrent sessions, posters, and panels. The Professional Meeting is designed to serve scientists, land managers, state and federal agencies, local governments, and other professionals interested in invasive plant research and policy in Texas.

Public Awareness

(November 19th, 2005)

The third day of the conference is devoted to public awareness and educational outreach and will be open to the general public.

Conference Features

- Over 200 attendees
- Multiple sessions with dozens of experts from the field
- Working groups and panel discussions
- Trade exhibits
- Poster sessions
- A full day of public awareness and educational outreach activities
- Continuing education credits

Who Should Attend?

Land management specialists from local, state, and federal agencies, including municipal, regional, state, and federal parks...

Environmental organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, Native Plant Society, Audubon, Land Conservancies, Land Trusts, etc...

Restoration consulting firms both large and small...

Military establishments ...

Researchers and students from Texas higher education institutions

Companies servicing restoration and weed removal projects including equipment manufacturers, GPS providers, herbicide producers, and landscape architects...



Conference Program

The main program for the statewide Invasive Plants Conference is based on seven key strategies from the National Invasive Species Council's 2001 National Management Plan for invasive species.

1. Leadership and Coordination - States play a key role in the management of invasive species within their borders. The Leadership and Coordination theme reflects the need for Texas to build capacity and capability to coordinate, detect, and respond to invasive species.

2. Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDR) - Over the long term, the most cost-effective strategy against invasive species is preventing them from becoming established but even the best prevention efforts cannot stop all introductions. Early detection of incipient invasions and quick coordinated responses are needed to eradicate or contain invasive species before they become too widespread.

3. Control and Management - When invasive species appear to be permanently established, the most effective action may be to prevent their spread or lessen their impacts through control measures.

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4. Restoration - Invasive species can cause a wide range of disturbances, both to the structure of ecosystems and their processes. Restoration of native species and habitat conditions in ecosystems that have been invaded is an integral component of control programs that may keep invasive species from causing greater environmental disturbances.

5. Research - Complementary research projects ranging from basic investigations with broad application to highly targeted applied efforts are needed in the state.

6. Information Management - Although there are many sources of information concerning invasive species, incompatible database formats and other factors can impede information sharing. Computer technology can help to meet this challenge.

7. Education and Public Awareness - We all have a stake in reducing the negative impacts of invasive species. A successful plan to address invasive species in Texas will depend on the public's understanding and acceptance of the actions needed to protect our valuable resources.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Professional Level Conference

Thursday, November 17, 2005

9:00-10:00 Plenary Session
10:00-10:30 Break
10:30 - 12:00 Species Overview
10:30 - 11:00 Aquatic Plants
11:00 - 11:30 Riparian Plants
11:30 - 12:00 Terrestrial Plants

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch
1:00 - 2:30 Concurrent Sessions
2:30 - 3:00 Break
3:00 - 4:30 Concurrent Sessions
4:30 - 5:30 Poster Session
5:30 - 7:00 Reception

Friday, November 18, 2005

9:00-10:30 Concurrent Sessions
10:00-10:30 Break
10:30 - 12:00 Concurrent Sessions
12:00 - 1:00 Lunch
1:00 - 3:00 Concurrent Sessions
3:00 - 3:30 Break
3:30 - 4:30 Panel Discussions
4:30 - 5:30 Poster Session

Public Awareness Day

Saturday, November 19, 2005

10:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.
Strange Days on Planet Earth: Invaders
11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
Expert Presentations
Invasive Plant Exhibit
Citizen Science Demonstration
Appearances by Woody the Weed

Conference Registration

Registration forms and conference
details are online at
www.texasinvasives.org/