



## It's invasive species awareness week. Here's how you can do your part (<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/416-s-invasive-species-awareness-week-here-s-how-you-can-do-your-part>)

BY EMILY RUSSELL (ADIRONDACK REPORTER) (/NEWS/REPORTERS/166/EMILY-RUSSELL)



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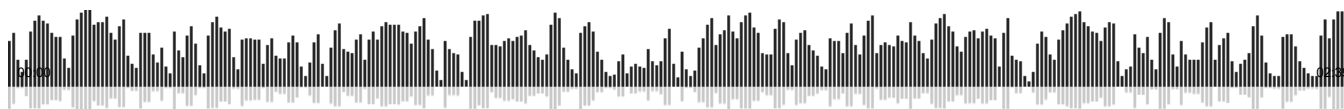
Purple loosestrife. Photo: courtesy Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program

Jun 08, 2020 — This week is invasive species awareness week in New York. The Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program is hosting online trainings to help people identify and survey invasive species in the North Country.

Tammara Van Ryn is the manager of APIPP, whose mission is to protect the Adirondacks from the negative impacts of invasive plants and animals (<http://adkinvasives.com/Invasive-Species/>) like emerald ash borer and Eurasian milfoil.

Van Ryn says there is a lot people can do year-round to slow or stop the spread of invasive species.

“If you’re a hiker you if you’ve walked through an area where there’s garlic mustard or just wander through the edge of a [purple] loosestrife patch, you probably have those seeds and plant parts on your boots,” Van Ryn explains.



Emily Russell

Here's how you can be part of invasive species awareness week

She suggests cleaning off your boots and the tips of your hiking poles, if you use them, before you go out hiking again. The same kind of guidance is applicable to boaters. “You should be looking at your boat, making sure you’re not transporting little bits of [Eurasian] milfoil from lake to lake.”

### Tips from APIPP to stop the spread of invasive species

- Always clean dirt from your boots and gear before hitting the trails on foot or by bike
- Clean, drain, and dry all fishing gear and boats between trips
- Burn it where you buy it - use local firewood
- Use clean fill and native plants for construction and gardening projects



(<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/images/APIPPloose>:

Purple loosestrife. Photo: courtesy Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program



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Emerald ash borer. Photo: courtesy Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program

This week, during invasive species awareness week, APIPP is hosting two free training sessions online that are open to the public. On Tuesday from 10 am-12 pm (<https://apipp.wufoo.com/forms/r1mw8mfd1pumrnp/>), Zachary Simek, APIPP’s Conservation and Geographic Information System Analyst, is hosting an online workshop on how to identify the invasive plants and animals that are impacting Adirondack forests, meadows, and woodlands.

On Wednesday from 10 am-12 pm (<https://apipp.wufoo.com/forms/q7hapt1knpvzh/>), APIPP’s Aquatic Invasive Species Project Coordinator, Erin Vennie-Vollrath, will be joined by Larry Eichler from the Darrin Fresh Water Institute in Bolton Landing, for an online workshop on how to identify aquatic invasive species such as Eurasian watermilfoil, hydrilla, and spiny waterflea.

“One you’ve gone to one of these trainings and then you start to paddle or you start to hike,” Van Ryn says you’ll be able to identify invasive species. “It’s great for families who are out and about this summer to have new knowledge about what they’re looking at when they’re outside.”

Other organizations throughout New York are hosting online events throughout the week, a list of which APIPP has compiled on their website (<http://adkinvasives.com/Events/>).

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