



REDUCING INVASIVE SPECIES ONE COMMUNITY AT A TIME.

## Ontario Invasive Plant Council Annual General Meeting

**EDRR Progress Update** 

Taylor Wright, Project Coordinator Invasive Species Centre



An agency of the Government of Ontario Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario







Not-for-profit, created in 2011.

Connect stakeholders, knowledge and technology to prevent and control the spread of invasive species that harm Canada's environment, economy and society.

Build networks of experts and stakeholders to identify and act on priority invasive species.

Provide funding, coordinate and lead projects in natural and applied science, technology transfer, outreach and education.

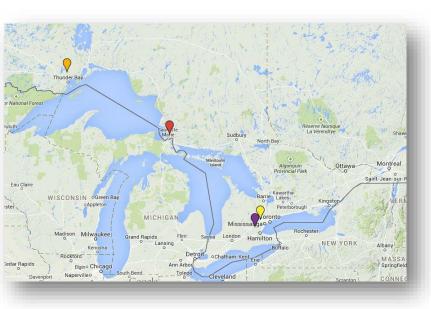
Consolidate and disseminate information to raise awareness, leading to preventing the introduction and spread of harmful invasive species.

How



### **EDRR Network Ontario: In a Nutshell**

To create, train and equip an **EDRR** network to provide eyes on the ground to detect, track, respond to, and control invasive plants and insects in four pilot areas in Ontario.

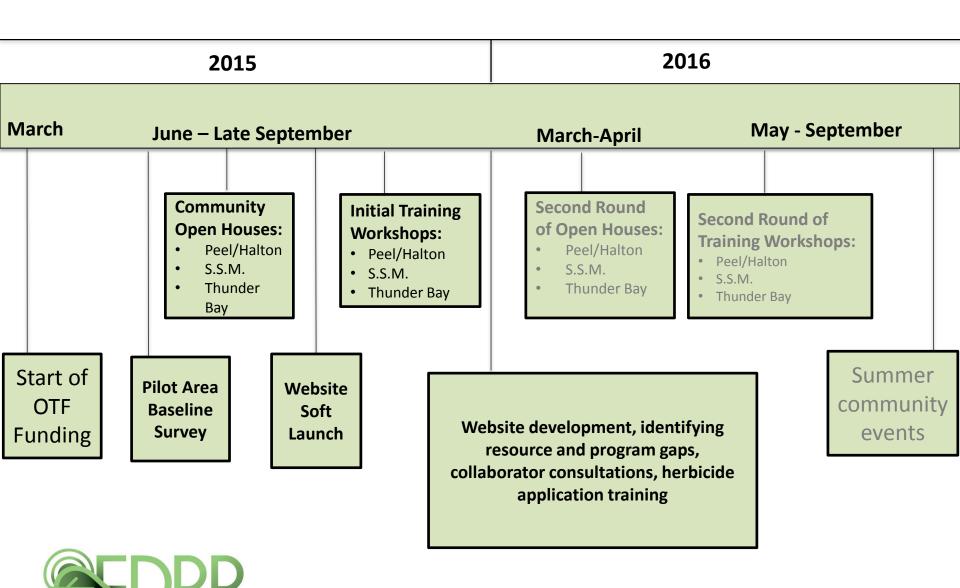


- Increase awareness & knowledge of invasive species
- Support hands-on work to more rapidly detect and reduce invasive species
- Engage youth & students to foster environmental responsibility
- Facilitate community partnerships to support restoration & maintenance of local habitats and recreational spaces



**Empower local level groups to take action!** 

## **EDRR Progress Update**



# **Baseline Survey**



- 100 people surveyed in each pilot area
- Evaluated invasive species knowledge, invasive species perceptions, and willingness to participate in invasive species activities

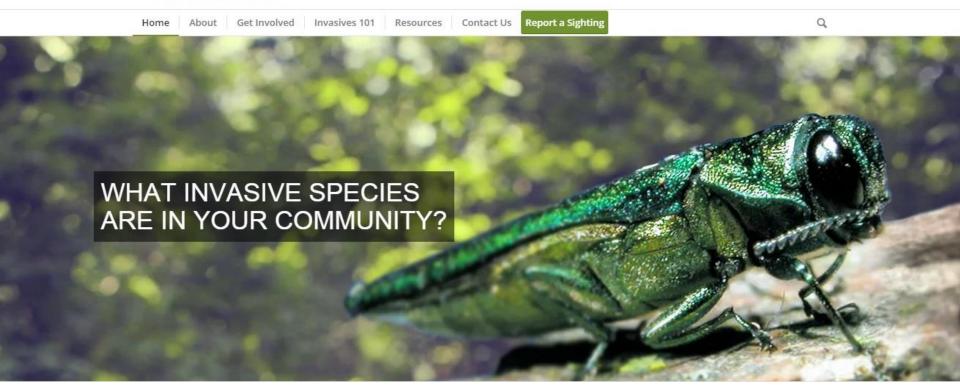


#### **Key Insight:**

"We believe that a better knowledge of the subject would have an impact on participation in prevention activities and could also influence which organizations Ontarians would contact if they were to see an invasive species."







## www.edrrontario.ca

Under current restructuring and development



# Fall Training Workshops



Georgetown Sept. 18 & 19, 2015

Professional workshop on 18<sup>th</sup>, followed by community workshop on 19<sup>th</sup> at the MoldMaster Sportsplex

- Conservation authorities
- Local environmental NGOs
- Horticultural societies
- Municipalities
- Scouts, teachers, & many more!





Sault Ste. Marie Sept. 22, 2015

Combined workshop at the Delta Waterfront Hotel; incredible diversity of attendees including:

- Sault Ste. Marie Region CA
- Sault Naturalists
- Local environmental NGOs
- Horticultural societies and Master Gardeners
- City of SSM Parks Division
- OMNRF staff
- Students



Thunder Bay Sept. 29, 2015

Combined workshop at the Prince Arthur Waterfront Hotel; new topic to many, a lot of interest and willingness to get involved

- Field Naturalists
- Local environmental NGOs
- Horticultural societies and Master Gardeners
- Municipal staff
- Academia, NCC, & many more!

Overwhelming amount of support and interest in the project





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Local champions emerging to take on a larger role





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So Far, So Good!







### **Contact Us!**

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