



2021 Anchorage Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area

Virtual Invasive Species Outreach

Greetings Volunteers,

The annual Anchorage invasive species smackdown (formerly known as Anchorage weed smackdown) is an important event to assist in protection of the habitats around the city and spread awareness about the threats posed by invasive species. Because of COVID-19 concerns, last summer we created a virtual event in its place. Although COVID-19 restrictions are relaxing, we have decided to repeat a virtual-only event in 2021.

For six weeks, we will consider **Virtual Invasive Species Outreach** submissions. This event will start the week following Alaska Invasive Species Awareness Week (June 25, 2021) and end on August 7, 2021. We invite participants to submit an invasive species outreach project and creativity is encouraged!

Suggestions of ways to participate include:

- Making an art project depicting how invasive species impact Alaska
- Write an essay about the importance of invasive species research
- Make a YouTube or TikTok video to share with your classmates or friends
- Compose a post on a social media platform of your choice to raise awareness about invasive species
 - If you post on social media, please use the hashtags
#AnchorageInvasiveSpeciesSmackdown2021 and #KeepAlaskaWildAndFree
- Compose an invasive species informational brochure to give to friends and family
- You can choose one invasive species, or discuss invasive species in general
- Load the [Alaska Weeds ID.app](#) on your smartphone to identify invasive plants and easily submit those observations
- Any other method you can think of to help raise awareness about invasive species in Alaska!

Upon completion, all participants will receive a free T-shirt. Details for event participants are as follows:

Sign Up Procedures

- Sign up Dates: Beginning Jun 25, 2021 online
- Sign up via [Anchorage Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area](#) website
 - Fill out the [Google Form](#) to sign up

Virtual Outreach Submission Dates

- June 25-August 7, 2021
- When you have finished with your participation, please send the following information to betty.charnon@usda.gov **as soon as you have completed your participation but no later than 8/7/2021 at 5:00 PM.**
 - Name
 - Description of activity (e.g. photo of product, screenshot of social media post, etc.)

Volunteers Will Receive

- A free t-shirt after submitting their project
 - Participants will be contacted with a T-shirt pick-up location

Potential Invasive Species to Use in Your Project (hold control and click on each link below for more information about the species)

[Elodea](#) (image courtesy: Alaska DNR)



Orange Hawkweed



European Bird Cherry



Reed Canarygrass



[Northern Pike](#) (image courtesy: Alaska DFG)



[European Green Crab](#) (image courtesy: Alaska DFG)



[European Black Slug](#) (image courtesy: Marc Donadieu / Glacier City Gazette)



Point-of-Contact

If any participants have any questions, please contact Betty Charon at betty.charon@usda.gov.

***Thank you for participating from the Anchorage Cooperative Invasive
Species Management Area and more importantly, the native wildlife
and plants!***