WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

ALIEN INVADERS

PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE

Lythrum salicaria

WHAT IS IT?

This plant is 3'-7' tall and looks like a spike with small purple flowers. It likes to grow in wetlands, along lake shores, waterways, roadsides, and in other moist areas.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

Originally from Europe and Asia, this plant can grow so thick that it crowds out our native plants. Dense stands of purple loosestrife make it unsuitable for a wide variety of native wetland animals and wildlife.

MANAGEMENT

- Hand pull small plants
- Cut and apply herbicide to stem (with DNR permit if near open water)
- Biological control by Galerucella beetles (contact the DNR at 608-221-6349)

WILD!

One plant can produce over 2 MILLION seeds! It is able to re-sprout from broken stems that fall to the ground or into the water.

www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/invasives

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