





**ILLINOIS EXOTIC WEED ACT:
REGULATIONS AND RECENT UPDATES**

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Outline

- Illinois Exotic Weed Act
 - Purpose
 - Legal Restrictions
 - Previous list of species
- Recent update
- New species added
 - Identification



Illinois Exotic Weed Act (525 ILCS 10/)

- Purpose – To reduce the spread and introduction of invasive exotic plant species
 - Natural area invaders
- Establishes a list of regulated species and prohibited actions
 - Permit opportunities
- Original law (3 species)
- First revision 2003 (7 species added, 10 total)
- Second revision 2015 (16 species added, 26 total)




Illinois Exotic Weed Act (525 ILCS 10/)

It is illegal for anyone to buy, sell, distribute, or plant any parts of listed species without a permit (except the commercial propagation of listed species intended for sale outside of the state of Illinois).

Includes all cultivars unless otherwise excluded

"Upon petition the Director of Natural Resources, by rule, shall exempt varieties of any species listed in this Act that can be demonstrated by published or current research not to be an exotic weed"



What does that mean?

- Restricts movement of a plant (intentional and unintentional)
 - Selling
 - Transporting
 - Digging up and moving
 - Planting
- Does not restrict growing it for the purpose of selling it outside of Illinois
- Does not restrict possessing it (no penalties if a listed plant is on your land)



Who has authority over Exotic Weeds?

- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
 - Write citations
 - Levy fines
 - Confiscate plant material
- Class B Misdemeanor
 - Continuing offense – each day separate violation



Illinois Exotic Weed Act (525 ILCS 10/)

Previous Regulated List

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| □ Japanese honeysuckle | <i>Lonicera japonica</i> |
| □ Purple loosestrife | <i>Lythrum salicaria</i> |
| □ Multiflora rose | <i>Rosa multiflora</i> |
| □ Glossy buckthorn | <i>Frangula alnus</i> |
| □ Kudzu | <i>Pueraria montana</i> |
| □ Saw-toothed buckthorn | <i>Rhamnus arguta</i> |
| □ Common buckthorn | <i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> |
| □ Dahurian buckthorn | <i>Rhamnus davurica</i> |
| □ Japanese buckthorn | <i>Rhamnus japonica</i> |
| □ Chinese buckthorn | <i>Rhamnus utilis</i> |



Illinois Exotic Weed Act

- Out of date
- Missed many of the most problematic invasive plants



IIPSC Species Assessments

- Illinois Invasive Plant Species Council assessment of species to formally recommend for addition to the Illinois Exotic Weed Act
 - Use verifiable, credible evidence in making decisions
 - Started with 'low hanging fruit'
 - Species well known to be invasive but sparsely sold and used



Species Assessments

Section 1: Distribution		Source Citation number below for all section items (see table at bottom of form)
(Circle one or more options that best describe distribution)		
What is the Current Known Distribution in Illinois? (Distribution maps may be included within 'supporting documents')	Distribution by County: Present in > 50 counties, 10 - 50 counties, < 10 counties , unknown distribution, scattered, not known in the state . Occurs along a couple counties along the Mississippi and one in NE IL. In Madison County, a large infestation occurs along the Mississippi river and an adjacent industrial area.	1, 2, 4.
What is the Current Known Distribution in United States? (Distribution maps may be included within 'supporting documents')	Provide Description: Very widespread - occurs in at least 37 states. Infestations seem to be more abundant and invasive in the western US, though it does occur through the east as well.	1, 2.
What is the Ecological Range of the Species (natural community types it can grow in)?	List Community Types or Conditions this Plant can Grow: Riverbanks, sandbars, willows, ditches, lake shores, floodplains, wetlands, beaches, roadsides, old fields, - Grows best when ground water is within 6m of soil surface	3, 4.
What is the rate of spread with no management?	Increases rapidly (doubling in < 10 years) , Increases but less rapidly, Stable, Declining, Unknown "There are no records or reports of salt cedar in this area prior to 1912. By 1913 the plants had spread over an area of about 600 acres of delta land. In the next 10 years the plants continued to spread over the delta area until by 1923 they covered 12,000 acres" (Robinson 1995).	5, 6.
Has this species been regulated or listed as invasive by other states, municipalities, organizations or agencies?	List Entity and Type of Regulation or Listing: Noxious Weed - Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming. Invasive Species - South Carolina EPIC, California IPC	1, 7.



Species Assessments

Section 2: Ability to Establish and Spread	(Circle one or more options)	
Type of Plant: Annual, Biennial, Monocarpic Perennial, Herbaceous Perennial, Vine, Shrub, Tree		1.
Hybridization Potential: Known to hybridize with congeners , not known to hybridize. Potentially, though exact taxonomy is confusing between species, but all are exotic and considered invasive.		3, 8.
Dispersal Potential: Ornamental , forage Erosion Control, Medicine/Food, Bird, Animal, Vehicles/Plumes, Wind/Water , Other: is occasionally sold as an ornamental.		3, 4.
Ability to go Undetected: High, Medium , Low. Please provide an explanation: When young, this plant superficially resembles a thin red cedar or can be mistaken for herbaceous plants. Old individuals look somewhat like willows. Also, some of the habitats where it grows are often relatively inaccessible.		4.
Section 3: Ecological Impacts (Check all impacts that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduces native species richness or diversity (outcompetes native species)		3.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alters ecosystem/community structure (e.g. alters canopy, subcanopy, herbaceous structure or soil characteristics)		3.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alters ecosystem/community functions and processes (e.g. fire intensity, hydrology, erosion potential, wildlife forage)		3.
<input type="checkbox"/> Has allelopathic properties		
Other:		
Section 4: Known or Potential Socio-Economic Impacts in Illinois		
Agricultural Impacts: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rapidly colonizes ditches, grassy swales and riparian zones		3.



Update to Illinois Exotic Weed Act

- **Exotic bush honeysuckles** (Lonicera maackii, Lonicera tatarica, Lonicera morrowii, and Lonicera fragrantissima)
- **Exotic olives** (Elaeagnus umbellata, Elaeagnus pungens, Elaeagnus angustifolia)
- **Salt cedar** (all members of the Tamarix genus)
- **Poison hemlock** (Conium maculatum)
- **Giant hogweed** (Heracleum mantegazzianum)
- **Oriental bittersweet** (Celastrus orbiculatus)
- **Lesser celandine** (Ficaria verna)
- **Teasel** (all members of the Dipsacus genus)
- **Japanese, giant, and Bohemian knotweed** (Fallopia japonica, syn. Polygonum cuspidatum; Fallopia sachalinensis; and Fallopia x bohemica)



Species Regulated by Exotic Weed Act

Familiar Faces

- Loosestrife, honeysuckles, olives, teasels, multiflora rose, buckthorns, kudzu

Up and comers

- Poison hemlock, Oriental bittersweet, knotweeds, lesser celandine

Ones to Keep out

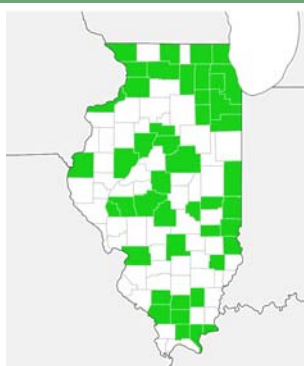
- Giant hogweed, salt cedar



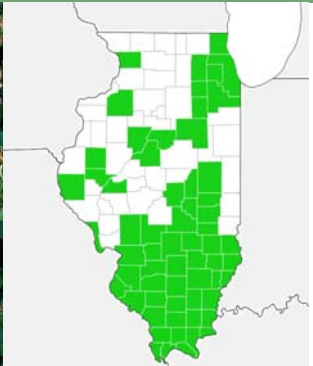
Familiar Faces



Purple loosestrife



Japanese honeysuckle

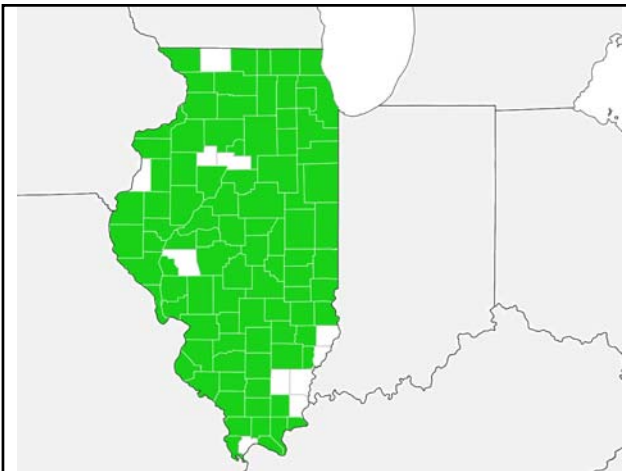


Bush honeysuckles

- Four species regulated
 - Amur honeysuckle (*L. maackii*)
 - Tartarian honeysuckle (*L. tatarica*)
 - Morrow's honeysuckle (*L. morrowii*)
 - Spring honeysuckle (*L. fragrantissima*)



Amur honeysuckle

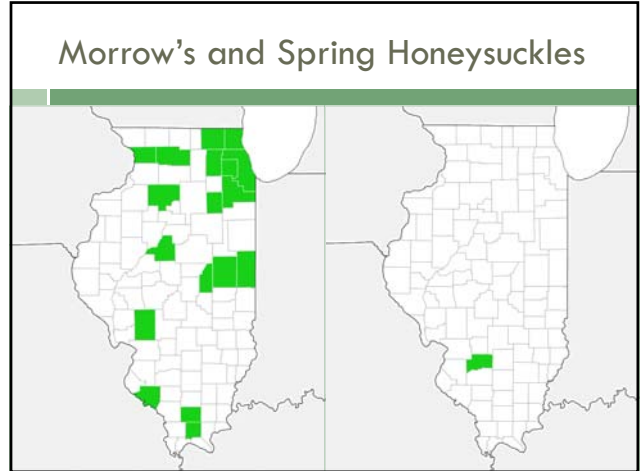
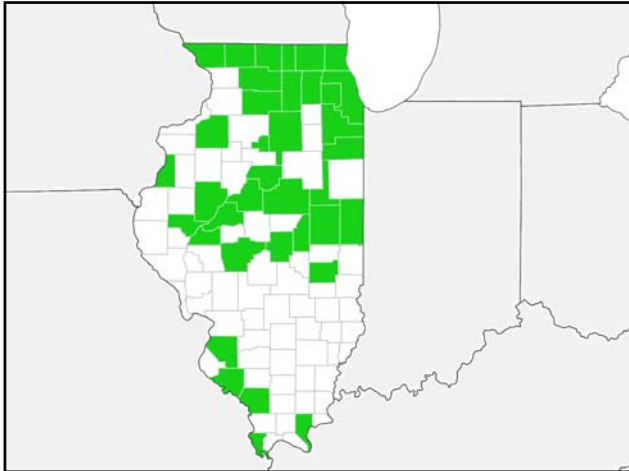


Tartarian honeysuckle



- Pinkish-red to white flowers, turning yellow
- Orange/red berries
- Leaves smaller and not as strongly pointed



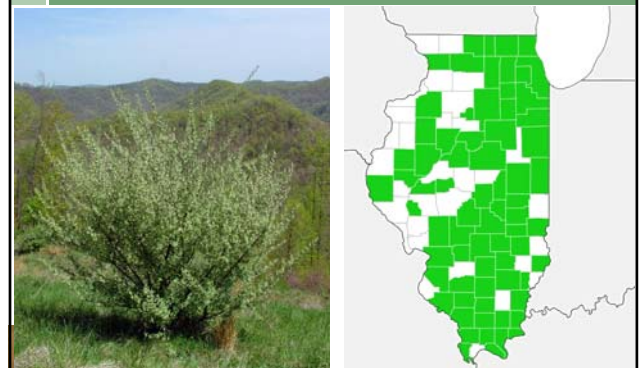


Exotic Olives

- Three species regulated
 - Autumn olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*)
 - Russian olive (*E. angustifolia*)
 - Thorny olive (*E. pungens*)



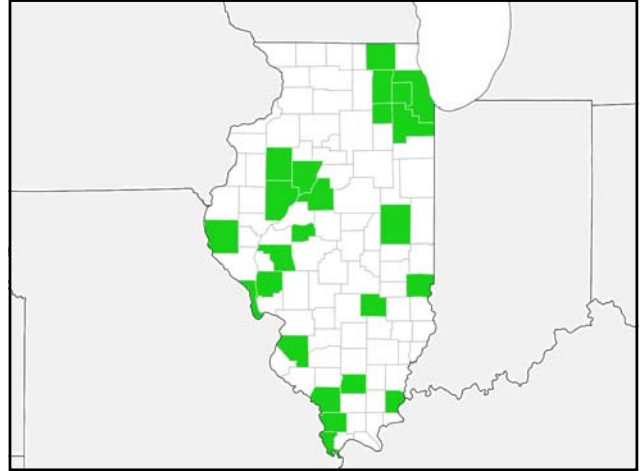
Autumn olive



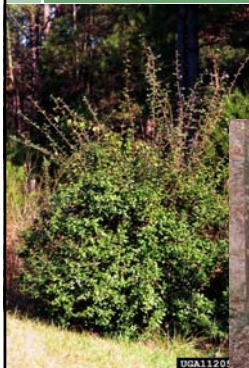
Russian Olive



- Tree
- Narrow leaves
- Silver on upper and lower sides



Thorny Olive



- Very similar to Autumn olive
- Long, limber branches can somewhat climb
- Thorns
- Fall flowering



Olive Amendment to Exotic Weed Act

Permits can be issued for the use of exotic olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*, *Elaeagnus pungens*, *Elaeagnus angustifolia*) berries in the manufacture of value added products, not to include the resale of whole berries or seeds. The exotic berry permit holder must register annually with the Department of Natural Resources and be able to demonstrate to the Department that seeds remaining post-manufacture are sterile or otherwise unviable.



Teasel

Entire genus regulated, two species present in Illinois

- Cutleaf teasel (*Dipsacus laciniatus*)
- Common teasel (*D. fullonum*)



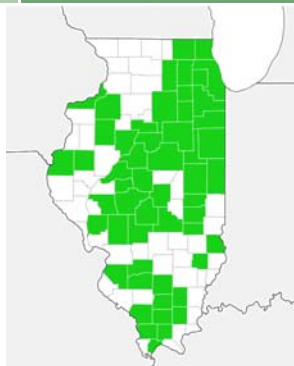
Cutleaf teasel



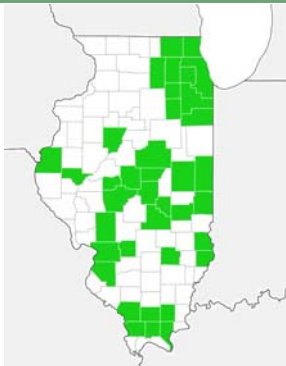
Common teasel



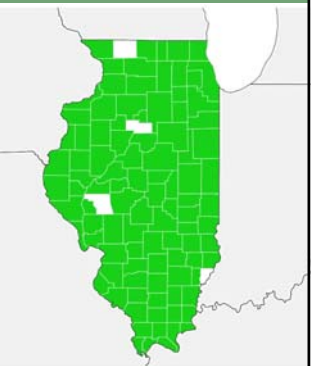
Cutleaf teasel



Common teasel



Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*)



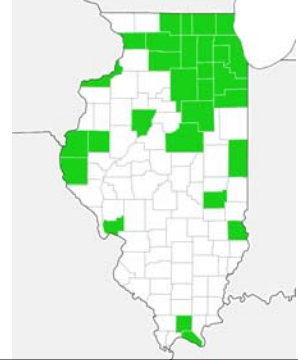
Buckthorns

Six species regulated

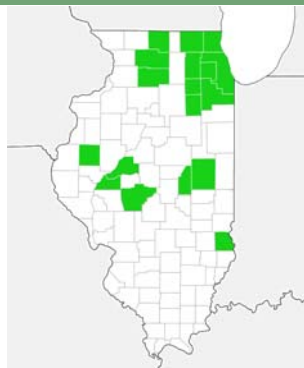
- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Glossy buckthorn | <i>Frangula alnus</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common buckthorn | <i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dahurian buckthorn | <i>Rhamnus davurica</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Saw-toothed buckthorn | <i>Rhamnus arguta</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Japanese buckthorn | <i>Rhamnus japonica</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Chinese buckthorn | <i>Rhamnus utilis</i> |
- *Not reported from Illinois



Common Buckthorn



Glossy Buckthorn

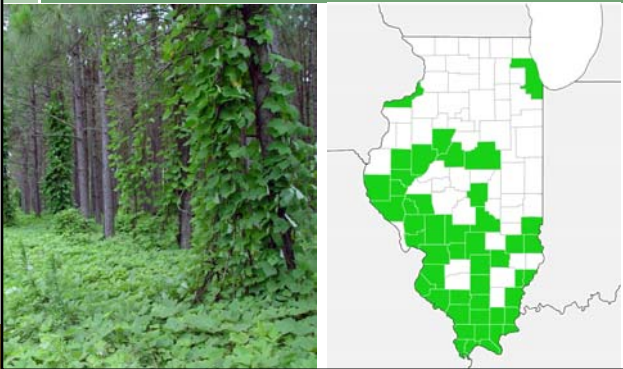


Native Buckthorn!!!

- ☐ Carolina Buckthorn, *Frangula (Rhamnus) caroliniana*



Kudzu (*Pueraria montana*)



Up and Comers



Poison Hemlock (*Conium maculatum*)



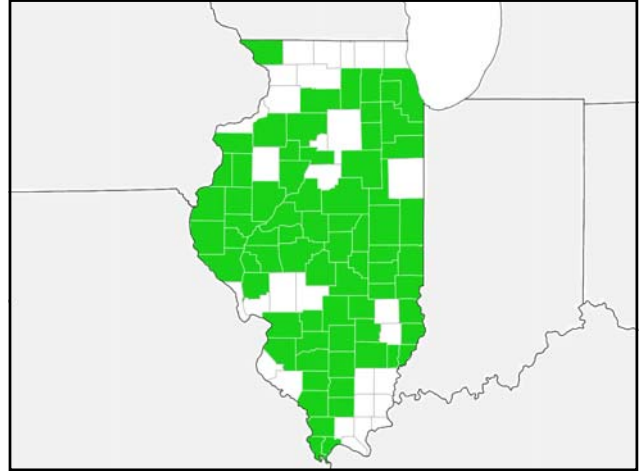
- Apiaceae (carrot) family
- Biennial
- Extremely poisonous
- Roadsides, ditches, open areas, RR rights-of-way, etc.



Poison Hemlock Identification

- Finely dissected leaves
- Waxy stems with purple blotches
- Loose flat umbel of white flowers





Oriental Bittersweet



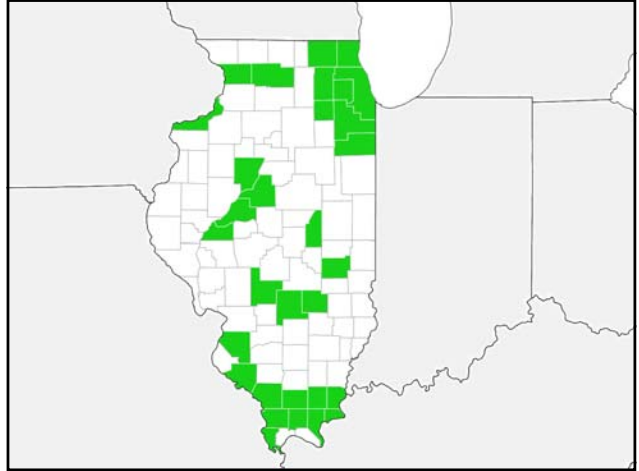
- ☐ (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)
- ☐ Deciduous woody climbing vine
- ☐ Very damaging to trees
- ☐ Often sold as material for wreaths
- ☐ Hybridizes with native species



Oriental Bittersweet Identification

- ☐ Woody climbing vine, no tendrils
- ☐ Round leaves
- ☐ Flowers – inconspicuous, dull colored
- ☐ Fruit – yellow-orange covering splitting to reveal bright red berries
- ☐ Light gray bark with diamond-shaped lenticels





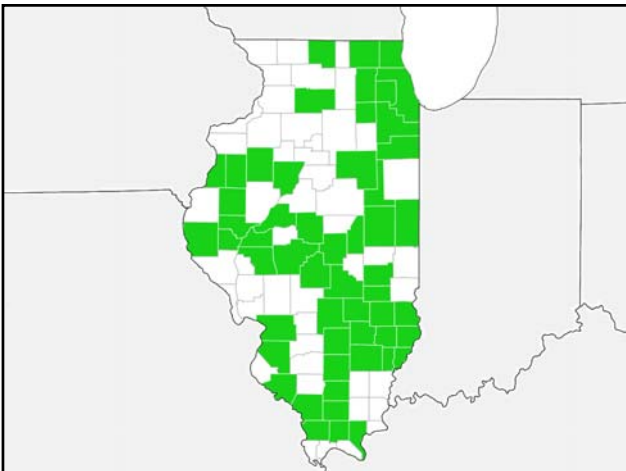
Exotic Knotweeds

- Japanese, Giant, and Bohemian
- (*Fallopia japonica*, syn. *Polygonum cuspidatum*; *Fallopia sachalinensis*; and *Fallopia x bohemica*)
- Very similar in appearance, confusing taxonomically, and often hybridize with each other
- Large multi-stemmed perennials that die to the ground each winter
- Open lands, disturbed areas, roadsides, etc.



Knotweed Identification

- 2-10 feet tall
- Alternate leaves, bases triangular-heart shaped
- Hollow stems with enlarged nodes and waxy covering
- 'Sprays' of small flowers
- Three-winged fruits
- Dead stems erect in winter



Lesser celandine (*Ficaria verna*)



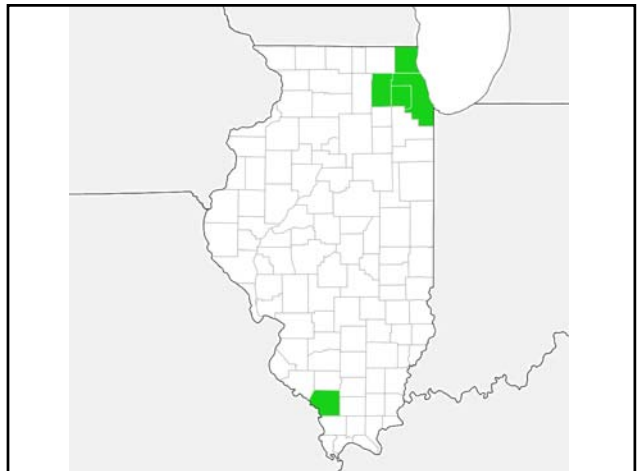
- AKA Fig buttercup, *Ranunculus ficaria*
- Perennial herbaceous plant
- 'Spring ephemeral'
- Moist forests, bottomlands, streamsides





Lesser Celandine Identification

- Glossy, dark green leaves, kidney-shaped
- Yellow, many-petaled flowers
 - Blooms very early spring
- Bulblets form at leaf stalks
- Tuberous roots
 - Both bulblets and roots can break off and wash downstream



Ones to Keep Out!



Giant Hogweed

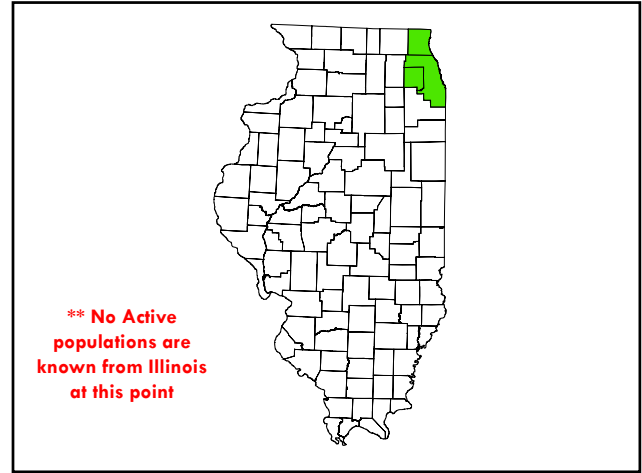
- (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*)
- Apiaceae (carrot) family
- Very large biennial (or short-lived perennial)
- Federal Noxious Weed
- Severe Health Hazard – Exposure to the sap makes skin sensitive to UV light, leading to severe blistering and burns
- Prefers moist soil and partial shade but can grow in a variety of conditions
 - Riverbanks, streamsides, old fields, railroad ROWs, open woods, other disturbed areas



Giant Hogweed - Identification

- Tall forb (8-15 feet when flowering)
- Huge, compound, dissected leaves (up to five feet wide)
- Stem hollow and blotched with purple
- Large “umbel” flower head (looks like Queen Anne’s lace flower)





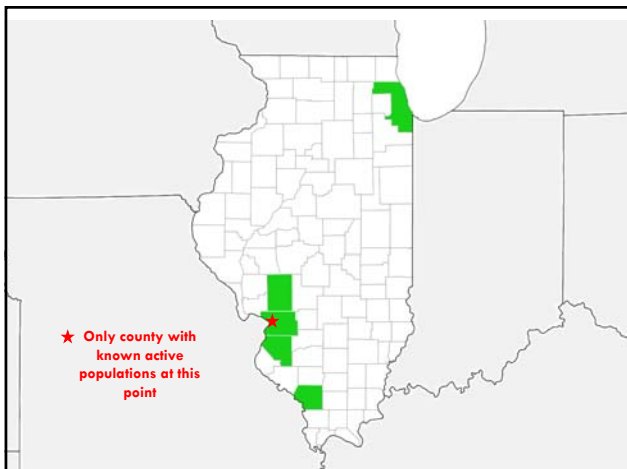
Salt Cedar (*Tamarix* sp.)

- Entire genus regulated, one species known from Illinois (*T. parviflora*)
- Confusing taxonomically
- Woody shrubs/trees
- Riparian and wetland invaders, ditches, Rights-of-way
- Listed as one of the world's worst invaders



Salt Cedar Identification

- ❑ Sick cedar that is growing out of place
- ❑ Short needle-like leaves (similar to red cedar)
- ❑ Reddish bark (particularly on younger stems)
- ❑ Pinkish-white sprays of minute flowers
- ❑ Yellowish fall color



Illinois Exotic Weed Act

One tool in the effort to reduce negative impact of invasive plants

- ❑ Other laws
 - ❑ Illinois Noxious Weed Act
 - ❑ Illinois Injurious Species Rule
- ❑ Educational/non-regulatory efforts
- ❑ Partnerships/Cooperatives
- ❑ Survey/Monitoring/Mapping
- ❑ Financial/Technical assistance
- ❑ Coordinated control efforts



