

Hamilton County CISMA Meeting Agenda/Notes October 2020

1) Welcome

- a) Welcome new attendees!
 - i) Welcome back Claire!
- b) About Today's Meeting
 - i) Some exciting event updates, education station, and partner updates

2) Upcoming events, event summaries, important dates

- a) Strike team events
 - i) The technical committee has been kicking around the idea of forming a strike team. This would be a team of educated volunteers, likely HIP members, that would do invasive work in the county, as well as be leaders in larger volunteer events. These individuals would be dispersed at larger volunteer events to help direct and teach less educated volunteers. Right now we're in the early stages.
 - ii) Carmel Parks is hosting an event on October 15th from 4-6 pm at Hazel Landing. They're going to show us how to use the collector app they use. Data will be bulk uploaded to EDDMAPS. (CANCELED)
 - iii) The City of Noblesville is hosting a boy scout volunteer event either on **November 7th** during the day to target invasives along white river in downtown Noblesville. They asked HIP if we could donate some of our time as volunteer teachers/leaders. To participate, you'd need to confidentially be able to identify bush honeysuckle, wintercreeper, tree of heaven, and white mulberry. You would be assigned an area to help people make identifications and communicate with the leaders. If you're interested in participating, reach out to Taylor.
- b) Quarterly Meetings: November 12 from 1:30 to 2:30pm

3) Education Station – Education Committee (Laura McCloughan) Asian Bush Honeysuckles

- a) See the presentation at the bottom of the page <https://www.hamiltonswcd.org/invasivespecies.html> Thanks Ed Committee! Phil brought up the issue on the Monon. Many people rely on Bush Honeysuckles to block their backyard from sight of the Monon. While there are alternatives, it many be difficult for people to make the transition.
- b) Signup – Taylor will be presenting at the next meeting since she forgot to ask for a volunteer!

4) Outreach

- a) SWCD Fairyville
 - i) Taylor will be attending as part of her regular duties at the SWCD. There will be 5 nature booths, and Taylor will be mainly standing near the invasive species booth plugging HIP. If anyone plans on attending the event you may get lucky and see me dressed up as the Fairy Gatekeeper of Invasive Species—I'm very excited.
- b) Weed Wrangles--Claire

- i) Now is the time to start thinking about weed wrangles. Mary suggested doing an official survey at WW locations so that the management is efficient and effective. Last year we picked a day and did several all on the same weekend. Claire and Taylor shared that in a meeting with Tom Hohman he told us that this leaves out people who are unavailable, or who would like to attend several. In the spring, we may want to spread weed wrangles out over a few weekends. Claire mentioned we should also have a contingency plan due to COVID. She then shared a few examples of what a “virtual” or socially distanced event looks like.
- ii) Often Garlic Mustard is pulled in the springtime. Phil mentioned that garlic mustard is an easy target, but now that we have the survey results we should look at Bush Honeysuckle. Claire brought up doing passive garlic mustard pulls and active bush honeysuckles. We should all be thinking about locations and logistics. We may make a Weed Wrangle Committee for the time being.
- c) Teeter Weed Wrangles: October every Thursday. They don’t need volunteers, likely but wanted us to know. Taylor and Kim will keep track of data for weed wrangles.
- d) Survey: The Tech Committee finished survey. Wanting to plot invasives visually, Claire mentioned that seeing what Carmel is doing will help us learn. Dorrie suggested putting out an informational brochure for general information and awareness. Could have them posted at a trail. Phil mentioned a press release for the current survey. We talked about making signs and keeping them in our office to be borrowed. Could be “invasive species removal” or “habitat restoration in progress”

5) Partner Updates

- a) SWCD – Taylor and Claire
 - i) Tree sale volunteers. We’ve had another record-breaking year for the tree sale and we’re seeking volunteers for tree unloading/sorting.
- b) SICIM/III – Mary
 - i) Weed wrangles: SICIM is encouraging CISMAS to start planning for fall and spring weed wrangle events. As much as possible, SICIM would like to set up invasive species assessments to provide straightforward management plans in advance of WW events.
 - ii) Pocket Guide to Indiana Regulated Invasive Plants
 - (1) Mary has one printed copy for IMCMC that she’ll bring up on October 8th.
 - (2) Bulk preordering has ended! Orders will be available in January, if not sooner
 - iii) 2021 Weed wrangle contest
 - (1) Contest will run from September 2020-July 2021
 - (2) Depending on funding, they may have prizes for more than one winner this year
 - iv) 2021 Weed Wrangle Awards: CISMAs are welcome to nominate people in their regions for the 2021 Indiana Weed Wrangler Awards
- c) Carmel Clay Parks –

- i) Vetnal Equinox Day planned for 3/19 at hazel landing. Will focus on invasive species removal.
- ii) 11 volunteer projects-many large scale native tree plantings. They're doing planting and aftercare waterings. Using scout groups.
- iii) Pollinator Partnership: Seed collection is continuing through the end of October. Cool project for next year.

6) Committee Updates

- a) Education – General updates
 - i) Break out after this meeting, website layout, looking for a presenter for presentation.
 - ii) Phil has been talking to different parks and trying to find the best way to work between them. Went through city codes. Fishers has the best invasives removal info. From 2015. If we can pull that together into a best practice we can share that with other governments and try to make it standard. Then we can share with HOA's and they'll have to follow the City's rule/code. This is a way to capture Callery Pear.
- b) Technical – General updates
 - i) Strike Team: at our last meeting we hosted Brenda Howard, the organizer of the strike team at eagle creek. After getting her input, Mary, Kim, Joanna and Taylor all decided to start learning by doing. The committee is doing those two events in October to get our feet wet and be able to better envision the role of a strike team in the future.
 - ii) Survey: The final survey results are put together in a Powerpoint pdf file. The graphed results, written answers, and expert opinions are all in there. Thank you to everyone who reviewed these and sent us feedback!
 - iii) Goals: Kim is working on reworking goals. Kim mentioned that he and Taylor meet once a month to figure out the general direction of the committee.
 - iv) Hamilton County Land Survey: After starting the strike team and finishing the previous survey, the committee is considering a windshield style survey of invasives in Hamilton county.
 - v) New time: In order to allow more of our committee members to attend our meetings, we're switching our meeting time from 2:30 to 7 pm October 14th.
 - vi) Herbicide licensing: We could provide a roadmap for what licensing. Claire mentioned that SWCD could host.
 - vii) Kim offered the services of his personal brushcutter, or to show someone how to use it.

7) Next meeting(s):

- a) HIP – October 4th at 6-8pm
- b) Education Committee – After the next HIP meeting
- c) Technical Committee – Change of time: October 14 at 7pm
- d) Kim mentioned evening meetings may encourage more citizen scientist members

Attendees:

- Taylor Wilson

- Claire Lane
- Laura McCloughan
- Dorrie Keyes
- Phil Flannagan
- Lana Ramer
- Joanna Woodruff
- Audrey Cooper
- Claire Lane
- Ted Bleicher
- Kim Gauen