

SPENCER WATER DEPARTMENT INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL FIELD WORKSHOP

DATE: SATURDAY MAY 26, 2018, 8:30AM – 1:00PM

LOCATION: DAVID PROUTY HIGH SCHOOL (INNOVATION LAB) AND SIBLEY FARM

INVITEES: SPENCER LANDOWNERS (10AC+) & LEICESTER ABUTTORS TO SHAW POND PROPERTY



WORKSHOP OBJECTIVE: To demystify invasive plant control using herbicides and to leave landowners with simple, safe and effective techniques that they will feel confident using on their own land.

OUTLINE

8:30-9:00 SIGN IN & COFFEE, PLANT ID STATIONS, SIGN UP FOR SITE VISITS

9:00-9:15 Welcome and intro, Goals for workshop, Background on Sibley Farm management

9:15-10:00

Topics to cover

- Provide context (why bother?-ecological and practical reasons)
- Plant ID-interactive, what are you likely to find in Spencer, what should you be on the lookout for
- Mechanical vs. Chemical control (i.e. which plants can be pulled and which cannot)
Cursory review of pulling techniques
- Chemical Approaches (foliar vs cut-stem) minimal attention to mist blowers and basal spraying

10:00-10:15 BREAK/ SNACKS

10:15-11:00

Topics to cover

- Basic palette of non-restricted herbicides available to landowners
- Safety concerns
- Proper use (dilutions, surfactant, dye, etc)
- Concentration vs. Ready-mix
- Costs & Suppliers
- Regulations
- Funding sources (e.g. NRCS)

11:00-11:20 RELOCATE EVERYONE TO FIELD TRAINING SITE AT TOP OF HILL/SNACK BREAK/HANDOUTS

11:20-12:35

Topics to cover

- How to prioritize treatment areas (discuss field edges and woodlands)
- Plant ID
- Equipment options, other tools needed, costs & suppliers
- Demo of herbicide application techniques (Cut-stem and foliar)
(Backpack sprayer, Handheld sprayers, weed wrench, saws and pruners)
- Follow-up and monitoring
- High density infestations (Sibley Farm example)-will need hike to treatment area
- Value of Ch.61 and Forest Stewardship Plans

12:45-1:00 WRAP-UP, ACTION STEPS FOR LANDOWNERS, SIGN UP FOR SITE VISITS

- Handouts, On-site visit sign-up, Spray package ordering