



ONTARIO'S
**INVADING
SPECIES**
AWARENESS PROGRAM

Report Sightings to the [Invading Species Hotline 1-800-563-7711](tel:1-800-563-7711)



Ontario Introduces Canada's First Invasive Species Law



The [Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources](#) recently introduced new legislation to take action against invasive species in Ontario.

Identified as a key priority in the Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan (which was supported by the OFAH), the new legislation is intended to provide a framework for the prevention, early detection, rapid response, and eradication of invasive species in Ontario, a regulator gap that is currently missing in the province.

If passed, the new legislation will be the first of its kind in Canada. The OFAH supports the new legislation. "This is a positive step in the fight against invasive species that will compliment actions already taken by the federal government. The importation of invasive species into Ontario is a serious concern. The legislation being introduced by the province will provide the minister with the tools to immediately react when a new species or threat is identified" said OFAH Executive Director Angelo Lombardo.

The legislation extends the ministry's powers to include more comprehensive inspection powers to determine compliance with the act, the introduction of a suite of enforcement provisions and penalties and gives inspectors the right to take samples and prohibit movement that may result in the spread of invasive species.

The Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan recognizes that stakeholders, like the OFAH, have a key role in the prevention and control of invasive species and we are pleased to partner with the Ontario government on this important initiative.

[Click here](#) to read the full press release.

See it, Map it! Ontario now has an Invasive Species App!



Concerned about Asian carp, giant hogweed, or zebra mussels? You can report these species and more online or with your mobile device using the Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System (EDDMapS) Ontario.

For over 20 years, the [Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters](#)

Invader of the Month



Dog-strangling Vine (*Vincetoxicum rossicum*)

Dog-strangling Vine, is a perennial vine native to Eurasia. The name "Dog-strangling Vine" actually refers to two invasive plants; black swallowwort and pale swallowwort both of which were most likely introduced for horticultural use in the northern United States in the mid-1800's.

Dog-strangling vine is a relative of the milkweed plant, and is spreading quickly throughout Southern Ontario. The spread of this plant is threatening populations of Monarch butterflies, a species at risk in Ontario.

Did You Know?

There has recently been a proposal to amend the current noxious weed legislation, adding Dog-strangling vine to the list and removing milkweed, in an effort to assist populations of Monarch butterflies.

If you would like to comment on the proposed legislation, [click here](#). The proposal will be available for comment until April 14th, 2014.

To find out more about Dog-strangling Vine and other invasive species please visit our [website](#).

(OFAH) has delivered the [Invading Species Awareness Program](#) (ISAP). The ISAP is a joint venture with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) providing education and outreach of invasive species in Ontario including administering the Invading Species Hotline, an invasive species information and reporting hotline. EDDMapS Ontario is intended to compliment the Invading Species Hotline by providing an easy to use reporting and information tool which can be used both online and with your Apple or Android devices.

You can start tracking invasive species today by signing up at www.eddmaps.org/Ontario or visiting the Google Play store and Apple iTunes App store. The OFAH and OMNR will be hosting a series of workshops and webinars to promote EDDMapS Ontario. Contact the OFAH/OMNR Invading Species Awareness Program at [1-800-563-7711](tel:1-800-563-7711) or email eddmaps@ofah.org to learn more about the mapping system for future opportunities.

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Due to Ontario's large diverse population, and geographic relation to the Great Lakes, Ontario has the greatest number of invasive species compared to any other province in Canada. Invasive species are the second greatest threat to Ontario's biodiversity, and pose a significant threat to our valuable fish and wildlife resources and Ontario's economy. The cost of not addressing this threat to our environment and the economy can be measured in the billions of dollars.

If passed, the new legislation will be the first of its kind in Canada. The OFAH supports the new legislation. "This is a positive step in the fight against invasive species that will compliment actions already taken by the federal government. The importation of invasive species into Ontario is a serious concern. The legislation being introduced by the province will provide the minister with the tools to immediately react when a new species or threat is identified" said OFAH Executive Director Angelo Lombardo.

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Invasive Species in the News

- 🔗 [See it, Map it! Ontario Now has an Invasive Species App](#)
- 🔗 [Invasive Species Putting Serious Pressure on Local Ecosystem](#)
- 🔗 [OFAH Supports the Introduction of Provincial Legislation to Control Invasive Species](#)
- 🔗 [Will the Asian Long-horned Beetle Ravage the GTA's Trees?](#)
- 🔗 [MNR Launches Operation Bait Bucket](#)

[More News...](#)

Fisheries and Ocean's Canada Commits \$450,00 to OFAH for Asian Carp Prevention



In 2012 Fisheries and Ocean's Canada (DFO) announced the federal government would allocate 17.5 million dollars over five years for Asian carp management and prevention in Canada. The allocated funding addressed four key funding objectives: prevention, early warning, rapid response and management, and control of Asian carp in the Canadian Great Lakes

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters is pleased to announce the commitment of \$450,000 from Fisheries and Ocean's Canada over the next two years to support the OFAH in a comprehensive Asian carp awareness campaign delivered through the Invading Species Awareness Program (ISAP).

The Asian carp awareness campaign would allow the OFAH to support two funding objectives: prevention, and early warning of Asian carp into the Canadian Great Lakes.

Highlights of the new campaign include, Asian carp billboard signage in key high traffic areas and near border crossings, metal boat launch and marina signage, video public service announcements (PSA's), radio PSA's, public workshops, magazine and newspaper advertisements, new web content including a kids corner, creation and production of new and existing educational materials, and the enhancement of OFAH invading species reporting tools including the Invading Species Hotline and EDDMapS Ontario.

You can help protect the Great Lakes from these harmful invasive species by learning to identify Asian carp and if you see any, report them to the Invading Species Hotline at [1-800-563-7711](tel:1-800-563-7711) or online to EDDMapS Ontario at www.eddmaps.org/ontario.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Asian carp.



We're looking for 31 hard-working individuals dedicated to preserving Ontario's biodiversity to serve as Invasive Species Community Outreach Liaisons on The 2014 Hit Squad! The Invading Species Hit Squad delivers on the ground, community based invasive species education, awareness and monitoring initiatives. Working in partnership with OMNR district offices, stewardship councils, conservation authorities, and non-governmental organizations.

To learn how you can get involved or for more information, contact the Invading Species Hotline [1-800-563-7711](tel:1-800-563-7711). [Click here](#) to apply for the Hit Squad, please submit an OFAH Invading Species Community Outreach Liaison Application Form, cover letter and resume indicating the location to which you are applying before April 11th, 2014.

Ontario's Invading Species Awareness Program

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