

Invasive Species in Wawasee Area

Common carp*

This is identified by two pairs of barbells on each side of the upper jaw. These bronze, brassy or yellow fish have serrated dorsal and anal fin spines. Common

carp is one of the largest members of the minnow family.

Most of

these heavy bodied fish are from 1 to 10 pounds and 12-25 inches in length. Koi are fancy breeds of common carp.



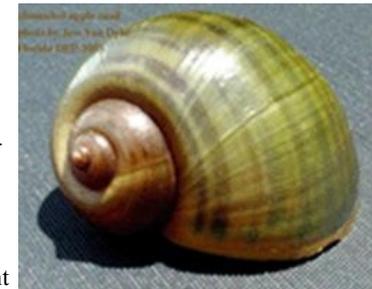
Grass carp*

Grass carp have an oblong body, a round belly and a broad head. Its color is a silvery dark grey above, the sides are lighter with a gold sheen, and the belly is whitish. The dorsal fin begins in front of the fish's pelvic fins. It has large scales that resemble a chain link fence. There are no teeth in the grass carp's jaw



Channeled Apple Snail*

Three snails of the genus Pomacea were found in Lake Wawasee in the fall of 2002. There are no members of the apple snail family native to Indiana. The channeled apple snail has been widely distributed by the hobbyist aquarium industry because of their tolerance to warmer temperatures than that of the mystery snail (also used to control aquaria plant growth).



Mute Swan*

Mute swans are very aggressive even toward people. They chase water birds including loons, and can keep

those birds from nesting. One bird can uproot about 20 pounds of submersed aquatic

vegetation daily, reducing important native aquatic plants.



Starry Stonewort

Starry Stonewort is an algae. It has no root system and is not attached to the bottom. It has tiny, star-shaped, tan-colored reproductive structures that are firm to the touch when

compared to its soft branches. It has a tendency to colonize deep water and can form dense mats several feet thick. It can impede navigation and limit growth

of more beneficial plants. It can reproduce easily by fragmentation.



Eurasian Watermilfoil*

The Eurasian Watermilfoil leaf has 12—21 pair of leaflets arranged in whorls around the stem. The leaves are limp when not in the water. Other mil-

foil leaves remain rigid when out of water. It produces small reddish flowers that protrude above the surface of the water. It also repro-



duces by fragmentation and clings to the bottoms of boats.

Common & Glossy Buckthorns*



GLOSSY

Both are tall shrubs or small trees that grows up to 20 feet tall, with black fruits and dull green smooth leaves. Glossy buckthorn



COMMON

tends to occur more often in wetlands and common buckthorn in uplands. Both buckthorns occur in a wide variety of habitats in northern Indiana and spread quickly through natural areas by seed. They take over the under-story and eliminate the diversity of native plants important to wildlife

Autumn Olive*

Autumn olive exhibits prolific fruiting, rapid growth, is widely dispersed by birds and can thrive in poor soil. Due to its nitrogen fixing capabilities, it has the capacity to adversely affect the nitrogen cycle of the native communities



that may depend on infertile soils. It is vigorous and competitive against

native species in open communities and it resprouts after cutting or burning. It also creates heavy shade



Reed Canary Grass*

Any moist, fertile, semi-open to open habitat provides good conditions for this species which spreads aggressively through a thick system of underground stems. Widely planted for forage and erosion control, this grass has taken over large areas of both open and forested wetlands throughout Indiana. It forms monocultures by out-competing all the native wetland plant species. It is found in every county in Indiana, mostly invading wetland community types in the state

Purple Loosestrife*

It grows 3-7 feet tall and puts up several spikes of purple flowers in June-July. It spreads aggressively by seed and by rhizome. Even "sterile" cultivars can still produce viable seed. Purple loosestrife has invaded wetlands in northern Indiana, forming pure stands that choke out native vegetation.



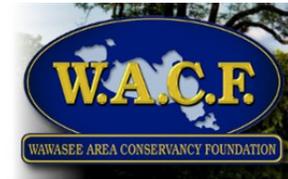
Bush Honeysuckle*

It is a woody semi-evergreen vine with opposite, oval leaves. The vine climbs over vegetation forming dense



patches that can overtop young forests. It is shade-intolerant and most often occurs in forest edges, abandoned fields, roadsides and open wetlands

Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation



The Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation (WACF) is a public not-for-profit foundation dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of the Wawasee area watershed for present and future generations.

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