



Purple Loosestrife



Garlic Mustard



Phragmites



Spotted Knapweed



Leafy Spurge

## Alger County's TOP TEN INVASIVE SPECIES

Alger Conservation District, 906-387-2222



Eurasian Watermilfoil



Houndstongue



Glossy Buckthorn



Wild Parsnip



Japanese Knotweed

### **Eurasian Watermilfoil**

Found submerged in ponds and on disturbed shorelines. 3-10' long, forms dense mats. 4-5 featherlike leaves with 12-20 leaflets. Spreads by fragments & runners. Control: Pull or rake, remove all fragments. Herbicide only with water-safe products.

### **Glossy Buckthorn**

Multi-stemmed shrub up to 20' tall found in broad habitat range. Alternate untoothed shiny leaves 1-2.5" long; small greenish-yellow flowers May-Sep; red berries turning purple Jul-Sep. Control: Pull small seedlings; cut larger shrubs & treat stumps with herbicide.

### **Phragmites**

Perennial grass 6-13' tall found in wetlands, ditches, stream & pond banks. Flat leaves 10-20" long by .5-1.5" wide; feathery flowerheads. Spreads by seed & rhizomes. Control: Burning, discing & digging may stimulate growth; properly-used herbicide best option.

### **Spotted Knapweed**

Biennial/perennial 2-4' tall, found in dry, sunny fields, roadsides, dunes, pastures. Rough, narrow-lobed leaves in basal rosettes & on stem; flowers Jul-Sep. Control: Wear protective gloves & avoid skin contact; pull, removing entire root; herbicide rosettes before stem elongates.

### **Leafy Spurge**

Perennial 6-36" tall found in roadsides, prairies, open & disturbed areas. Milky sap in stems; yellowish-green flowers with cuplike structure Jun-Jul. Spreads by lateral shoots; deep taproot. Control: Pull small infestations or use herbicide; will come back if roots are left.

### **Japanese Knotweed**

Adaptable shrub up to 10' tall, broad range of habitats. Hollow stems resemble bamboo; tiny white flowers Aug-Sep; spreads by seed & rhizomes. Control: Treat cut stems with herbicide; remove all plant fragments.

### **Houndstongue**

Biennial 8-48" tall, found in riparian areas, grasslands, fields, disturbed soil. Toxic to livestock. Reddish-purple flowers June-Jul. Spreads by clinging, barbed nutlets. Control: Pull small infestations; herbicide most effective on first-year rosettes.

### **Garlic Mustard**

Biennial up to 3' tall, found in woods & open areas. Rosettes appear very early; may be distinguished from violets by strong garlic odor. White flowers Apr-Jun. Control: Pull with root before seeding; remove all flowering heads.

### **Wild Parsnip**

Biennial up to 5' tall; broad range of soils, but shade-intolerant. Yellow flowers in flat clusters, Jun-Jul. Control: Protect skin & eyes: all parts of plant cause burns & blistering! Cut 2" below soil surface; remove flowerheads. Herbicide most effective on 1st year plants.

### **Purple Loosestrife**

Perennial 1.5-6" tall, found mostly in wet & disturbed soils. Narrow leaves, opposite or whorled; flowers Jul-Oct. Spreads by seed, root & plant fragments. Control: Pull seedlings; cut & remove all flower heads. Herbicide may be used after peak flowering.