

SLELO PRISM

St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Invasive Species Management
"Teaming Up to Stop the Spread of Invasive Species"



2024 Autumn Newsletter

10,199 EAB parasitoid wasps
released from 2022-23.

Volunteers find evidence of overwintering,
bringing hope to ash tree species.



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About the Cover: Volunteers Find EAB Parasitoid Wasps

SLELO PRISM-Megan Shaw & Robert Smith

In 2022 and 2023, we released three species of emerald ash borer (EAB) parasitoid wasps at SUNY Oswego Rice Creek Field Station as part of the USDA's EAB Biocontrol Release Program. Total parasitoid wasps by species released were 2,347 *Spathius galinae*, 5,652 *Tetrastichus planipennisi*, and 2,200 *Oobius agrili* for a total of 10,199 parasitoid wasps released. To determine if these wasps are establishing a population, we followed up the releases with an EAB biocontrol establishment survey.

The survey involved installing 15 yellow pan traps on 15 different ash trees located across the area that we previously released the wasps. These traps consist of two plastic yellow bowls placed over each other and mounted to a tree. A 20% clear solution of propylene glycol and a small quantity of clear dish soap are placed in the top bowl. The top bowl has a filter where excess fluid during rainy period flows out into the bottom bowl. The color yellow attracts many insects including the parasitoid wasps that we are looking for, so insects are lured toward the trap, land in the solution and drown. The dish soap breaks the surface tension, not allowing them to land on the surface. The Propylene glycol that is in the pan is food grade and can be poured on the ground and will preserve the caught insects for about a week.

From June 5th through September 25th, rain or shine, a group of dedicated volunteers and SLELO staff monitored the traps weekly to collect trap specimens, refill the traps with the solution, and view specimens under a microscope in the lab. All insects suspected of being an EAB parasitoid wasp were placed in a vial and sent to a USDA APHIS Lab in Michigan for verification.



Project volunteers, from left to right, Ann McGivney, Robert Foster, Spencer Van Epps, Hunter Parise, Lucas Russel. ©SLELO PRISM/TNC.

Sixty out of the sixty-eight potential EAB parasitoid wasps found in traps that were sent to the USDA APHIS have been evaluated. Fourteen of the trap specimens were confirmed as being the species we released during the last two years (2 *oobius*, 11 *spathius*, 1 *Tetrastichus*). This shows that the wasps can overwinter and is a good sign that they can become established, bringing hope for protecting ash tree species from emerald ash borer!

This was the longest running SLELO volunteer effort lasting 17 weeks, with 28 volunteers who contributed 357 volunteer hours! Thank you to the many committed volunteers, SUNY Oswego Rice Creek Field Station, and Oswego Soil and Water Conservation District for supporting this project; thank you to USDA APHIS for supplying the EAB parasitoid wasps and analyzing our specimens. View a video showcasing this project on [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) or [YouTube](#).

We're recruiting volunteers for the summer of 2025 to complete year two of the EAB Biocontrol Monitoring Project. If you'd like to join us, please sign up on our [events page!](#)

Pictured on the front cover: Adam Starke, Olivia Green, Andrew Bird, and Kennedy Sullivan. ©Brittney Rogers SLELO PRISM/TNC.

Rapid Response to Fanwort in Mexico, NY

SLELO PRISM – Megan Shaw, Brittney Rogers

Recently, an invasive aquatic plant, fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*), was found to be established in Black Creek in the Village of Mexico. Fanwort is not currently known to be established in nearshore habitats of the Great Lakes and has potential to be impactful and rapidly spread if introduced. This invasive plant is known for outcompeting native vegetation, reducing light availability for benthic organisms and native plants, and reducing dissolved oxygen levels, all of which can impact populations of native aquatic species. This species also easily spreads via fragments carried by water flow or recreational movements, which is why discovery of fanwort close to Lake Ontario immediately raised concerns.

The Youngs Mill Dam, which historically controlled water levels on Black Creek, has undergone reconstruction to enhance fish and wildlife habitat. With the construction activities, there is a heightened risk that fanwort fragments could further spread down Black Creek, which joins the Little Salmon River and drains into Lake Ontario. To help reduce the spread potential of fanwort into these waterbodies, staff from SLELO PRISM, Cornell University's Water Resources Institute, Village of Mexico DPW, and NYS DEC joined efforts to remove an area of the fanwort surrounding the reconstruction zone and the sparse populations of the plants downstream.

Community members and anglers who visit Black Creek and Little Salmon River can help stop the spread of fanwort by looking for and reporting observations, and always practicing

Clean-Drain-Dry protocols with all boating and fishing equipment. Fanwort can be identified by its submerged stems with leaves connected by a long stalk (petiole) and fan-like leaves that have split tips forming a Y-shape. The plant also grows small white flowers that can be seen above the water during the summer. If you think you've found fanwort, please take a clear close-up photo, note the location (GPS coordinates are best) and report observations to iMapInvasives or directly to the Brittney Rogers at Brittney.rogers@tnc.org.

SLELO PRISM also encourages community members to commit to monitoring Black Creek and the Little Salmon River for invasive species annually. Those interested in assisting this effort, can sign up to join the [Water Protectors Program](#). Fanwort is not considered to be widespread in the region, and by aiding early detection efforts, you're helping to keep it that way. Help spread the word about fanwort on [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#).



Fanwort

Cabomba caroliniana



Protector's Activity

SLELO PRISM-Megan Pistolesse-Shaw

October is Firewood Month! Did you know that transporting firewood can unknowingly spread invasive forest pests and diseases to new areas? Invasive species like emerald ash borer, longhorned beetles, and spotted lanternfly can hide within or lay eggs on firewood that can go unnoticed, even surviving harsh winters. When firewood is moved from one location to another, these species often emerge and cause devastating damage to forests.

What Can You Do to Help?

Your firewood choices matter and you can help slow the spread of tree-killing pests and diseases by following some best practices, no matter where you are!

1. Buy or source firewood from where you'll burn it.
2. Buy certified, heat-treated firewood (it's the **ONLY** safe firewood to travel with).
3. Responsibly gather firewood on-site when permitted.

By sourcing your firewood locally, and keeping it local, you dramatically reduce the risk of accidentally transporting invasive species that could go on to decimate tree populations in new areas.

What to Look For?

It's nearly impossible to tell if firewood contains harmful insects. If you need to travel with firewood, make sure to purchase certified, heat-treated firewood (in New York, look for the label "New York Approved Heat-treated Firewood/Pest Free" with the producer's name and address), or keep the firewood as close as possible to its original source.



Follow the rules to protect our trees! Any firewood you transport in New York should include documentation of its source, origin, or heat-treatment. Even if you're traveling with firewood cut for personal use, be sure to carry a **Self-Issued Certificate of Origin** – this can save you from losing your firewood or facing a hefty fine!

In observance of Firewood Month, The Nature Conservancy's Don't Move Firewood Campaign is planning a series of informative webinars to occur in early 2025. The webinars will focus on firewood movement regulations, outreach, and forest pest impacts; experts will discuss the importance of comprehensive online outreach strategies and give updates on their social media message frame testing (**Get webinar details**). Additionally, the Don't Move Firewood website offers a **social media toolkit** with ready-to-share graphics, and lots of other firewood safety resources on their **website**.

Get more tips on how to protect your favorite outdoor spaces from invasive species by taking our **Pledge to Protect!**

Piping Plovers & Invasive Species

Kennedy Sullivan, NYS Office Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation

Piping plovers (*Charadrius melodus*) are tiny shorebirds that live and nest exclusively on the beach. They are found along oceans, lakes, and rivers looking for invertebrates to eat. The species is divided into three populations across the United States which include the Atlantic Coast, Great Lakes, and Great Plains. In New York State, we have both Atlantic Coast and Great Lakes plovers. The Great Lakes population is state and federally endangered, but the Atlantic Coast is state endangered and federally threatened. Our Great Lakes plovers are found on the shoreline of Lake Ontario and the Atlantic plovers are found along Long Island.

Piping plovers are important to our ecosystem for several reasons. As an indicator species, they tell biologists if the beach ecosystem is healthy. They are also a part of a broad food web, and without them, biodiversity will decrease on our shores. Piping plovers can tell us how invasive species impact our beaches because they are picky on placing a nest. For context, piping plovers make depressions (or scrapes) directly on the ground in the upper beach as their nest. They will then lay 4 eggs and both parents take turns incubating the clutch for about a month. Piping plovers do not like nesting in areas of dense vegetation, as they prefer wide, expansive stretches of beach to prevent predators from sneaking up on them and their chicks.

Invasive plant species, such as *Phragmites*, spotted knapweed, yellow iris, and purple loosestrife can quickly take over the dune ecosystem. They choke out state protected

Piping plovers on Eastern Lake Ontario Shoreline. Photo Credit: Kennedy Sullivan, NYS Parks.



plants like American beach grass and dune willow. Invasive species are hard to control if they get too large and it can take years to fully remove them. It is concerning if we have invasive plants within piping plover nesting habitat, as its detrimental to their ability to return each season.

It is important to volunteer with organizations to remove invasive plants, as you are not only protecting the native plants, but endangered species like the piping plover. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Kennedy Sullivan, the NYS Great Lakes Piping Plover Recovery Program Coordinator, at kennedy.sullivan@parks.ny.gov. Their field season begins annually on April first. Those interested in volunteering can help with beach clean-ups, education and outreach, monitoring, installation of fencing, habitat restoration, and removing invasive plants.

Restoration & Resiliency Initiatives

SLELO PRISM- Robert Smith

2024 Management Efforts Update

Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*):

- 39 Total Sites Monitored
- 25 Sites with no germination
- 2 Retired
- 5 Sites root cut
- 8 Sites herbicide treatment
- 1 Site with no permission to treat

Swallowwort (*Vincetoxicum rossicum*):

- 39 HPAs being managed
- 10 PCAs
- 118.07 Acres under management (HPA)
- 25.42 Acres of Presence Area

Knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*):

- 13 HPAs being managed
- 4 PCAs
- 40.02 Acres under management (HPA)
- 6.76 Acres of Presence Area

Phragmites (*Phragmites australis*):

- 21 HPAs being managed
- 9 PCAs
- 27.91 Acres under management (HPA)
- 2.64 Acres of Presence Area

Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)

- 7 HPAs being managed
- 2 PCAs
- 11.69 Acres under management (HPA)
- 6.23 Acres of Presence Area

Volunteers:

- 4 PCAs being managed
- Swallowwort, yellow iris, bittersweet
- 28.21 Acres under management (HPA)
- 2.85 Acres of Presence Areas



Phragmites at Selkirk Fen Preserve.
©SLELO PRISM/TNC.

2024 Early Detection Surveys

The 2024 Early Detection Surveys are still in progress and will finish up this month. Surveys will be completed at 11 of the PCAs this year, 4 are Terrestrial only, 5 are aquatic only, and 2 are both aquatic and terrestrial. This requires us to survey approximately 87 Terrestrial HPAs and 56 Aquatic HPAs, for a total of 143 highly probable areas, 38 of these have active treatments occurring and we have evaluated these sites for post treatment success. Also, as we have been doing in the past few years, we have conducted native species surveys at these PCAs to get a better idea of what species we are protecting and which to use in restoration area plantings.

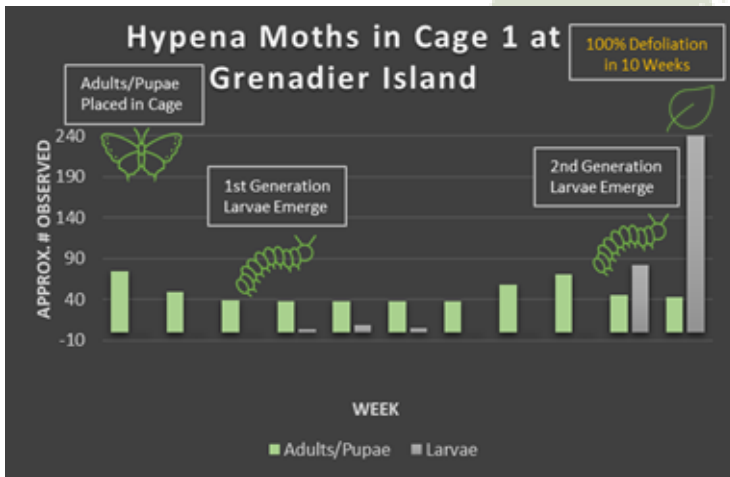
Swallowwort Biocontrol Update

This year, we completed another biocontrol release of *Hypena opulenta* Moths. On May 29th, we received 150 pupae and 150 adults from the Philip Alampi Beneficial Insects Laboratory in NJ. These were divided evenly so there were 75 adults and pupae in each of the four cages (2 at Robert Wehle State Park, 2 at Grenadier Island). Mating success was high this year with Cage 1 at Robert Wehle and Cage 2 at Grenadier being removed after 85% and 90% of the leaves in the cages were defoliated. *Continued on next page...*

Restoration & Resiliency Initiatives (Continued)

SLELO PRISM- Robert Smith

Cage 2 at Robert Wehle and Cage 1 at Grenadier Island had fewer larvae produced in the 1st generation, so we waited a few additional weeks for a second generation of larvae to be produced. This strategy had great success in Cage 1 on Grenadier Island with 100% leaf defoliation when we removed the cage after 10 weeks. Unfortunately, the adults did not emerge to produce a second generation of larvae in Cage 2 at Robert Wehle State Park, so we removed the cage at the 30% leaf defoliation that was created by the 1st generation.



Trail Surveys were conducted this year at Robert Wehle State Park by PRISM and Park staff who each walked a third of the trail system monthly from June to August. Unfortunately, no evidence of *Hypena* Moths overwintering was found. Additionally, a community science program involving residents of Grenadier Island looking for *Hypena* moth establishment did not result in evidence of *Hypena* moths overwintering.

Notable Natives

Every year after the field season, we like to highlight a couple of native species that we are protecting through our invasive species management. The first is mountain death camas

(*Anticlea elegans* var. *glauca*)—a threatened species in New York State. Mountain death camas flowers are star like and creamy white appearing from June to August. Up to 50 flowers appear on branched panicles up to a foot tall. All parts of mountain death camas are very poisonous and can kill both humans and animals. Some early settlers were poisoned after confusing mountain death camas bulbs with edible bulbs like wild onions.



Anticlea elegans var. *glauca*. ©SLELO PRISM/TNC.

The second species is painted-cup/scarlet paintbrush or *Castilleja coccinea*—an Endangered Species in New York State. It flowers early from May to August. The showy red to orange structures that people think of as the flower are technically bracts, a type of modified leaf, and not petals. Actual petals are tubular and green to yellow in color. Painted-cup paintbrush is a hemiparasite, which means it is able to get nutrients from other plants around it such as perennial grasses and other wildflowers. The tubular shape of the flowers makes them well adapted for pollination by hummingbirds. A variety of insects visit paintbrush flowers, especially bees, despite the fact that insects have a difficult time seeing the color red.



Castilleja coccinea. ©SLELO PRISM/TNC.

Due to a Non-Disclosure and Confidentiality agreement, we cannot release exact locations of these species.

Restoration & Resiliency Initiatives

SLELO PRISM- Brittney Rogers

Restoration Updates:

Monitoring of our two large scale projects (South Sandy Creek and North Sandy Pond) and eight HPA restoration areas continues along with management of the invasive species. Special thank you to all volunteers and partner staff who have assisted with the physical removals of yellow iris and pale swallowwort at some of these sites. Plantings are to occur November 7-9. Please join us if you are interested! View pg. 13 for event listing.

AIS Learning Experience and new Water Protectors Program:

We successfully hosted a 3-part learning series teaching attendees how to identify and survey for aquatic plants (both native and invasive). This was also the inaugural beginning of our new and exciting volunteer program where stakeholders are invited to attend our trainings and adopt-a-waterbody to survey for and report invasive species. We have 17 waters adopted and look forward to expanding this new volunteer program in 2025! Learn more about the program and join on our [website](#).

Looking forward to 2025:

We are very excited to share that we are planning to expand our restoration work in 2025 and are looking to collaborate with partners who may have project sites that are in need of invasive species management and restoration!

We will also be continuing our eDNA work in 2025 and are interested to collaborate with partners and stakeholders who may have interest in sampling their waters for more elusive or low abundance invasive species. Contact Brittney.Rogers@tnc.org if you'd like to collaborate on restoration or eDNA!

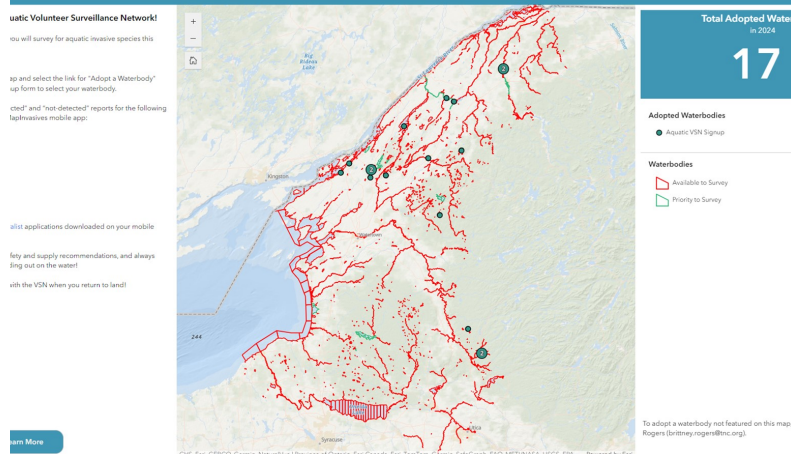


Brittney Rogers, ©SLELO PRISM/TNC.



Keywaydin State Park, ©SLELO PRISM/TNC.

SLELO Water Protector's Dashboard



©SLELO PRISM/TNC.

Welcome Carolyn Koestner

SLELO / Adirondack PRISM Conservation and GIS Analyst

Please join us in welcoming our newest team member Carolyn Koestner to the SLELO PRISM!



Carolyn holds a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science from Skidmore College and is currently pursuing a master's certificate in GIS. She brings with her extensive experience in using GIS and data analysis at environmentally focused organizations, most recently completing a two year GIS and Science Communications fellowship with the Ausable Freshwater Center and Lake Champlain Sea Grant.

As the Adirondack and SLELO PRISMs Conservation and GIS Analyst, Carolyn provides GIS and data analysis support to the PRISMs to advance invasive species work across Northern New York.

In her first few weeks, Carolyn has been busy getting to know the SLELO/APIPP team and our work. She's traveled out to our region a few times—getting out in the field with Robert and Brittney, helping plant a native garden at our office, and meeting so many of our great partners at our autumn partner meeting.

Over the coming months, Carolyn will be working with the team to analyze our 2024 data. The results from this data analysis will help inform our work in 2025 and beyond. Once that's done, she'll move on to helping SLELO prepare for the 2025 field season.

We're excited to have Carolyn on our team and look forward to her shared expertise towards continued success.



Tree Watertown Volunteers Promote Invasive Species Awareness and Appreciation for Urban Forests

Emily Fell, Tree Watertown Secretary

Tree Watertown is a volunteer group of community citizens which serves as the *Street Tree Advisory Board* to the City of Watertown in support of the **City's Tree Ordinance** (Chapter 287 of the City Code). Tree Watertown advises the City on policy issues, makes recommendations regarding grant applications and works with the City Planning Department in the development of the City's annual tree planting program. In addition, Tree Watertown serves the community through the development and presentation of educational initiatives and tree planting projects throughout the year. The group had been active for over 20 years and is always welcoming new members with an interest and passion for trees.

Accomplishments of Tree Watertown in 2024 included working with the City of Watertown and the Watertown housing authority to secure \$550,000 in funding from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Urban and Community Forestry Grants, and \$4,000 from the NY Community Foundation to support Urban Forestry Management, community engagement and tree planting events. An Arbor Day tree planting celebration event was held honoring Charlie Nevin, a former DEC Regional Forester, for his invaluable contributions to Watertown's green initiatives, beginning in the mid-1990's. Jefferson County Stormwater Coalition also spoke about the benefits of trees for improved stormwater management and achieving minimum control measures for the City's Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System Permit.



Volunteers planting trees in Watertown. ©Emily Fell.

A volunteer tree planting event was held on April 27th to replace ash trees to manage for the Emerald Ash Borer, promote a diverse urban forestry, engage with students and improve stormwater management on Ives Street by planting 50 trees. Additionally, Tree Watertown partnered with SLELO PRISM to host an Arboretum Walk and Talk to promote awareness about urban forest pests and other invasive species awareness, while also highlighting the benefits of the City's trees and how they can be protected by community members. Additionally, native flowers were planted by members to create native pollinator habitats within the arboretum.

If you would like to learn more and get involved with Tree Watertown efforts, we encourage you to attend a monthly meeting every second Thursday at 4:30pm, reach out to Tree Watertown's secretary at easheridan84@gmail.com to be added to the email list, and/or the Tree Watertown Group on [Facebook](#).

Tree Watertown Annual Tree Planting

Emily Fell, Tree Watertown Secretary

On **Saturday, November 2nd, 2024 at 9:00am** Tree Watertown, The City of Watertown, and Watertown School District will be hosting a volunteer tree planting event at Grant, Seward and Henry Streets, with parking available at Starbucks Elementary at 430 E Hoard St in Watertown, NY. Volunteers are invited to help plant trees that will reduce stormwater runoff to the Black River and improve the City's walkability and aesthetics; benefiting students, residents of the City of Watertown, and wildlife that depend on healthy trees for habitat. Volunteers will be planting at least 40 trees, and tree species being planted will include salt tolerant Pacific sunset maple, black maple, heritage oak, tulip tree, and crab apples. Tree

plantings throughout the City help diversify the Urban Forest, making trees more resilient to risks including invasive species and climate change. The tree plantings also aim to replace ash trees that are being removed to prevent impacts from Emerald Ash Borer. The City continues to strategically manage the Ash trees in response to the invasion of this forest pest in accordance with their **Urban Forest Management Plan**, and with support from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Urban and Community Forestry Grant program, and the Northern New York Community Foundation. Follow the **Tree Watertown Facebook** page to get more details on the tree planting and other committee activities.

Day in the Life Program

Emily Fell, Cornell University & NYS DEC

For the third year in a row, students from Belleville Henderson Middle School were able to participate in environmental monitoring activities as part of the Day in the Life of Lake Ontario – St. Lawrence River student summit event, held this year at Westcott beach State Park on September, 30th. NYSDEC, and partners from NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and SLELO PRISM engaged 38 students in assessing the lands and invasive species presence, waters, water chemistry, and macroinvertebrates within the tributary at Westcott beach and along the lakeshore, and students developed an understanding, sense of place, and learned about stewarding the watershed. Data collected from the monitoring activities will be shared on the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's "Day in the Life of Lake Ontario -St. Lawrence River" [website](#).



Megan Shaw leading the Lands Assessment Station ©Emily Fell Cornell/DEC

Ecosystem Restoration at Tibbetts Point Preserve

Bridgett McCann, Thousand Islands Land Trust

The Thousand Islands Land Trust (TILT) is thrilled to announce a significant restoration project at its Tibbetts Point Preserve, aimed at revitalizing this ecologically significant property. Supported in part by funding from SLELO PRISM, this initiative highlights TILT's ongoing commitment to conservation and enhancing natural habitats throughout the Thousand Islands region.

Tibbetts Point, like many areas in the region, has been impacted by invasive species. Buckthorn and honeysuckle, two particularly aggressive woody shrubs have created conditions that allow pale swallowwort, an invasive vine, to spread rapidly. These invasives have significantly altered the landscape, threatening native plant communities and the wildlife that depends on them.

The Land Trust's immediate focus is reclaiming these overgrown areas. Starting this September, TILT's stewardship team will deploy a skid steer-mounted forestry mulcher to clear the invasive brush down to the ground. This critical first step will make it easier to treat the persistent pale swallowwort, setting the stage for future restoration efforts.

Once the invasive species are under control, TILT will begin transforming the cleared areas into thriving native grasslands. Using a carefully selected native meadow seed mix, the reseeded will begin in late Spring 2025. This will support grassland nesting birds and wintering raptors, restoring the natural balance of the ecosystem. By removing invasive species and restoring native habitats, the Land Trust is ensuring that Tibbetts Point becomes a thriving environment for both wildlife and the community.



Top photo: A view of grassland birds through binoculars (circled is an American goldfinch), captured by TILT's Land Protection Specialist, Natalie Gates. These native species thrive in the restored habitats at Tibbetts Point Preserve, a testament to ongoing conservation efforts. © Bridgett McCann, TILT.

Bottom photo: Map showing Tibbetts Point Preserve and other TILT properties in which invasive species management and restoration has occurred or is underway. ©Natalie Gates, TILT.



Kudos to Our Volunteers!

We value our volunteers and appreciate all their efforts to support our invasive species management initiatives. In 2024, volunteers and Student Conservation Members with Parks assisted invasive species removals.

Through these efforts we removed 688 yellow iris and 2,365 swallow-wort plants, removing leaves/stems and digging up as much of the root as possible. Plants were removed from Lakeview WMA, Black Pond WMA, El Dorado Preserve, and the Mud Bay boat launch.

SLELO and partner-led water chestnut pulls resulted in an estimated 27,907 pounds of water chestnut removed. Pulls were held at various sites throughout the region, including but not limited to: Lakeview WMA, Guffin Bay, Oneida Lake, Metzger's Pond, Big and Old Mans Bay, Black Lake, Krinbles Creek, Oswego River, Little Salmon River, Rice Creek and various locations on the Oswegatchie River.



SLELO volunteers ©SLELO PRISM/TNC.

If you organized a water chestnut pull in the SLELO region please report your efforts to NYiMapInvasives. Instructions are available on their [website](#). Additionally, please report water chestnut removal efforts to megan.pistolese@tnc.org so we can include your efforts in our regional stats.

Volunteer Spotlight

I'm 77 years old and I don't walk well, but I was able to volunteer over the summer with SLELO PRISM assisting their EAB biocontrol monitoring project at the Oswego Rice Creek Field Station. I learned about biocontrol as a method to naturally control invasive species. Having no prior experience, I was taught how to identify three parasitoid wasps and examined specimens under a microscope; I later learned that some of the specimens I found ended up being the target biocontrol wasps! Robert Smith and Megan Shaw made my experience easy and fun. They provided guidance and answered any questions that myself or other volunteers had. I'm planning to volunteer for this project again next year. My advice for anyone who is considering volunteering with SLELO is that you're never too old to do good for our community!


~SLELO volunteer, Robert Foster



Robert Foster ©SLELO PRISM/TNC.

[Become a SLELO Volunteer](#)

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS





Hike to Protect Hemlocks

Learn to Survey for and Report Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

Hikes held from 10 AM- 12 PM. Registration is required.

- October 30th- Inman Gulf/Glide Trail, Rodman, NY
- November 15th- Great Bear Rec. Trail, Fulton, NY
- December 5th- Salmon River Falls, Richland, NY
- January 17th- Trenton Greenbelt Trail, Holland Patent, NY
- February 14th- Forest Park, Camden, NY



[Get Details](#)



Assist Restoration Planting

Saturday, November 9th
10 AM
El Dorador Preserve, Henderson, NY



[Get Details](#)

- October 30th 10am–12pm; [HWA Guided Survey Training](#) at Inman Glide Trail, Rodman, NY.
- November 2nd, 9 AM; Tree Watertown annual tree planting. Meet at Starbucks Elementary. Get details on the [Tree Watertown Facebook page](#).
- November 7th, 11am-12pm EST; [NE RISCC Webinar: Shifting Phenology & Invasive Species Control](#)
- [NYS IPM First Fridays Webinar Series](#)
- November 14th & 15th; [GLAA Sub-Basin Workgroup Meetings](#).
- December 20th, 7-8:30 PM; [Winter Solstice Candlelit Walk with THTLT](#).
- [Firewood Month Webinar Series](#) (postponed to early 2025)
- [Volunteer Opportunities](#) Join THTLT Bird Quest, survey trainings, plantings, and more!

<<Funding Opportunities >>

- [NOAA Fisheries Community Science Project Funding](#) (deadline, 11/4/24)
- [IPM Partnership Grants Program](#) (deadline, 11/14/24)
- [DEC & NYS Water Resources Institute Watershed Research Grants](#) (deadline, 1/31/25)



WEBINAR RECORDINGS AVAILABLE

@SLELOPRISM ON YOUTUBE



[View Recordings](#)



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iPledgeToProtect.org



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Protect Your Favorite Outdoor Spaces From Invasive Species

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JUNE 25, 2024 | 2 MIN READ

Highly Invasive Spotted Lanternflies May Have a Surprising Weakness: Vibrations

Spotted lanternflies are sometimes drawn to power line vibrations—and scientists are taking notice

BY CLAIRE MARIE PORTER



[Read the article](#)



From Our Director



A fond farewell.....

Shé:kon, Greetings Colleagues,

After fourteen years of serving as Program Director with The Nature Conservancy/SLELO PRISM, I am excited to announce my retirement!

I would summarize the many accomplishments of the SLELO PRISM and partnership, but quite frankly, there are just too many to include. Rather, I will just say that I have truly enjoyed working with the amazing SLELO Partnership and sincerely appreciate the opportunities and support everyone has provided me during my tenure. As the establisher of the SLELO PRISM program and partnership, I am absolutely amazed at what our collaborations have accomplished over the years to protect our lands and waters. Our combined efforts will go far to ensure a healthy environment for people and nature.

While I look forward to enjoying my retirement, I will very much miss being part of our team and working with each of you, The Nature Conservancy and the NYS DEC. Working with these amazing people and organizations has certainly been a 'feather in my cap.'

I would like to shout out to my immediate team: Megan Shaw, Brittney Rogers, Robert Smith, and Carolyn Koestner. I leave you all in good hands. I will soon change the sign on my office door to read "*gone fishing.*"

Niá:wen / Thank You
~Rob Williams

SLELO PRISM Partner List

- ◆ NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- ◆ Fort Drum Military Installation
- ◆ Save The River
- ◆ The Nature Conservancy in New York
- ◆ CNY Regional Planning & Development Board
- ◆ NY Sea Grant
- ◆ Cornell Cooperative Extension Offices
- ◆ NY Power Authority
- ◆ Ducks Unlimited
- ◆ NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
- ◆ Tug Hill Commission
- ◆ Onondaga Audubon
- ◆ NYS Department of Transportation
- ◆ Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
- ◆ US Coast Guard Auxiliary
- ◆ NY Natural Heritage Program
- ◆ Thousand Islands Land Trust
- ◆ St. Regis Mohawk Tribe-Environmental Unit
- ◆ Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- ◆ Indian River Lakes Conservancy
- ◆ Algonquin to Adirondack Collaborative

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The Nature Conservancy



SLELO PRISM
Host Organization



Department of Environmental Conservation

Eastern Lake Ontario

Swallow-wort collaborative

