

Saginaw Bay CISMA Update
September 2, 2015
Erik Palm - Project Coordinator

- Please send me contact info of groups or individuals you think might be interested in working with the SB-CISMA in any way. I know some groups have been “left-out”, but not on purpose. It’s just a matter of me not having their information. Thanks to those of you who have already sent additional contacts my way!
- I had the pleasure of joining Mike and Aubrianna from the DNR invasive response team August 14. They let me tag along on the shoreline of Nyanquing Point State Wildlife Area. This was a very eye opening experience for me. They showed me test plots where frogbit had been treated with diquat, a contact herbicide. Relative to the surrounding area, the treatments were successful. Interestingly enough, the recent controlled burn of phragmites severely burned, if not killed, some of the frogbit. The burn also allowed for easier access and the identification of more frogbit that was previously hidden among the phrag. Due to the habitat preferences of the frogbit, it’s apparent that to thoroughly treat/control frogbit, on the Saginaw Bay at least, treating phragmites and cattail should be part of the equation.
- PLM Lake and Land Management Corp treated European frogbit within Nyanquing Point during the last couple of weeks. I look forward to seeing the results soon. I’ll be sure to get some comparison pictures for everyone to see.
- There is a small volunteer group headed out to Nyanquing Point September 10 to pull frogbit along some heavily trafficked waterways used by hunters. This might be a great location in the future for some signage explaining how to decontaminate your equipment, or better yet, provide some decontamination supplies with the signage. We’re keeping it small for a variety of reasons, but there’s already talk of doing a larger event next year. Thanks to Sarah Topp from MUCC for organizing the event!
- Japanese knotweed is currently flowering. The small, white, flower clusters make this invasive more noticeable and easier to ID. We’re also getting near the ideal time to treat this invasive as well. JK is another invasive that, if treated with a systemic herbicide at the right time, will carry the chemical deep into its rhizome while preparing to overwinter. Word of warning though, research has shown that failed attempts at control may induce “rhizome dormancy”. The plant will basically shut down until conditions return to being more favorable for the plant. So it is important to make sure anyone doing treatment follow methods known to be successful in controlling this plant.
- I’m looking forward to being a part of some phragmites treatments this fall. This is a good time to mention that anyone doing invasive species related work to document it, preferably by video. Andrew Beebe, the forester for Alcona and Iosco counties, would like to collect as many clips as possible, and put together an informational video about the SB-CISMA and the invasive species work being done in the area. You can send the video clips to myself, or to andrew.beebe@macd.org. Have a great Labor Day weekend!