

COLLECTING INVASIVE PLANT DATA

JUNE-AUGUST 2006



Identifying Invasive Species

1. Download and study the invasive plant field guide on the website with the survey species (<http://www.virginia.edu/blandy/ccmapping.htm>). Consult the Peterson's Field Guides or online resources listed in the field guide for more information or to identify difficult species.
2. Download the datasheet; (see "invasivesdatasheetexample").
3. Attend our training workshops in June or July (contact crcecolgy@si.edu).

Collecting & Reporting Data

1. For those that own < 2.5 acres the survey encompasses all of your property, for those with more land you should select a portion of land (100m x 100m) for the survey. For the larger landholders, make sure the survey area is a single habitat type.
2. Survey your sample area (field (pasture or abandoned), forest, edge, yard) sometime between June and August.
3. Use the datasheet to check off species found and record the date. If you are unsure about a plant and checked all field guides and references, indicate on datasheet and we will contact you about visiting site.
4. Estimate abundance of each species on your property. There is a different scale for each type of invasive – For trees: sparse (< 5 individuals), moderate (5-10), abundant (> 10). For shrubs: sparse (< 20 individuals), moderate (20-100), dense (> 100). For herbs sparse (found but not common), moderate (> 1 patch of plants), abundant (several large patches, broad distribution)
5. Include your name, address (911 location), contact info (mailing address, email, phone), GPS coordinates (optional for smaller properties, essential for larger properties), and a brief description of your survey area. If you need GPS coordinates we can come out to your property and obtain them.
6. Mail Invasive Plant Species datasheet to:

Clarke County Mapping Project
c/o Laura Kearns
Smithsonian CRC
1500 Remount Road
Front Royal, VA 22630

If you have questions please call us at 540-551-9420 or email crcecolgy@si.edu; email submissions are also welcome. We will try to have your data online within 1 month of your submission (<http://www.virginia.edu/blandy/ccmapping.htm>).