

Invasive Species – VDACS' Work and Available Resources

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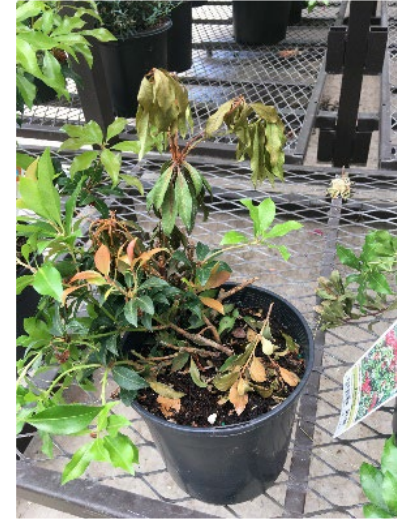
Office of Plant Industry Services



*VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND
CONSUMER SERVICES*

OPIS – Mission

- Protect Virginia’s agricultural and horticultural economic interests
- Variety of laws and regulations that protect the environment
- Inspection, certification, survey, trapping, mitigation, prevention
- <https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/plant-industry-services.shtml>



OPIS – Laws

- Regulatory agency, ensuring compliance with plant protection laws and regulations

- Virginia Plant and Plant Products Inspection Law
- Virginia Tree and Crop Pest Law
- Virginia Bee Law
- Virginia Endangered Species Act
- Virginia Noxious Weeds Law

- Authority for invasive species work specific to species listed by laws and associated regulations

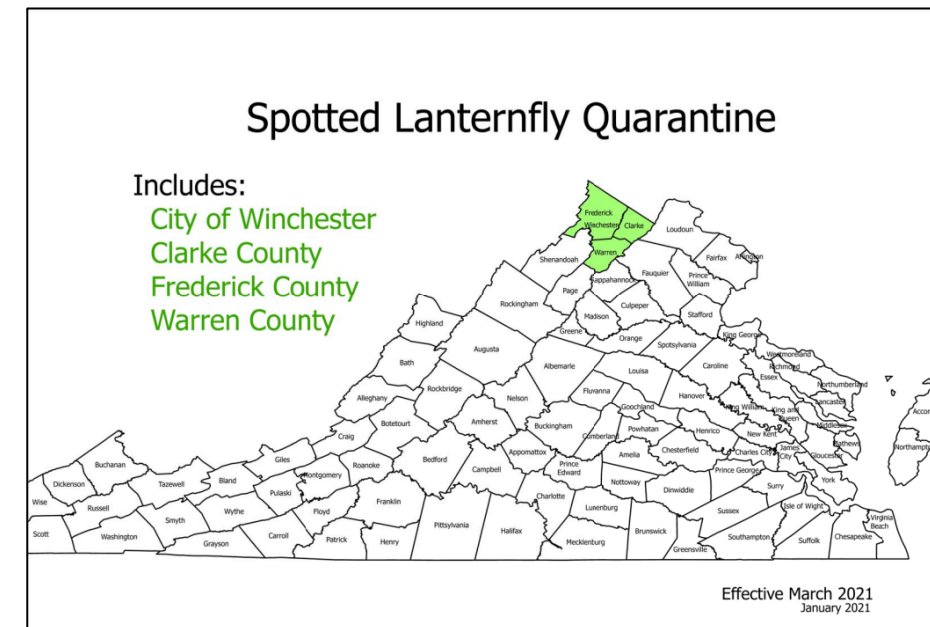
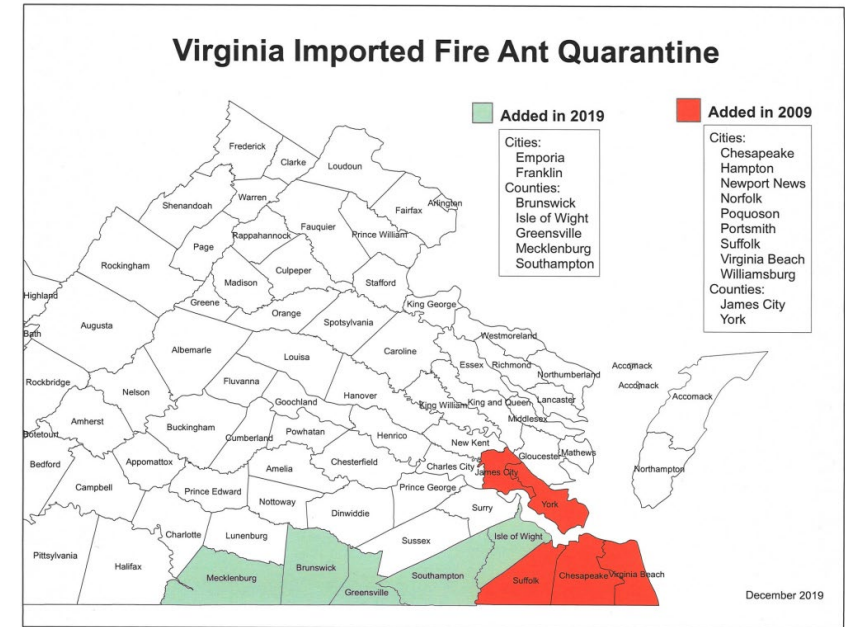
- Other agencies may also have oversight over specific invasive species
 - Department of Wildlife Resources (aquatic invasive species)
 - Department of Conservation and Recreation (invasive plants list)

Scientific Name	Common Name	REGION		
		Virginia Invasiveness Rank	Non-Native	Potential
Ailanthus altissima	Tree-of-heaven	High	*	*
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	High	*	*
Alternanthera philoxeroides	Alligator-weed	High	*	*
Ampelopsis brevipedunculata	Porcelain-berry	High	*	*
Carex kobomugi	Japanese Sand Sedge	High	*	*
Celastrus orbiculatus	Oriental Bittersweet	High	*	*
Centaurea stoebe ssp. micranthus	Spotted Knapweed	High	*	*
Cirsium arvense	Canada Thistle	High	*	*
Dioscorea polystachya	Cinnamon Vine	High	*	*
Eucalyptus alatus	Autumn Olive	High	*	*
Ficaria verna	Winged Euonymus	High	*	*
Hydrilla verticillata	Lesser Celandine	High	*	*
Iris pseudacorus	Hydrilla	High	*	*
Lespedeza cuneata	Yellow Flag	High	*	*
Ligustrum sinense	Chinese Loosestrife	High	*	*
Lythrum japonica	Chinese Privet	High	*	*
Lonicera japonica	Japanese Honeyuckle	High	*	*
Lonicera maackii	Amur Honeysuckle	High	*	*
Lonicera moroniifolia	Moroni's Honeysuckle	High	*	*
Lycium barbarum	Purple Loasessiflora	High	*	*
Microstegium vimineum	Japanese Stiltgrass	High	*	*
Murdannia tokei	Marsh Dewflower	High	*	*



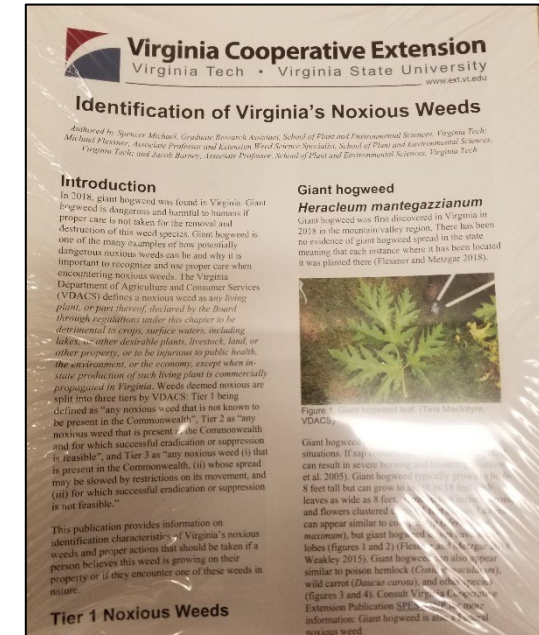
OPIS - Regulations

- Regulations include quarantines for specific insect or disease plant pests
 - Spongy Moth (formerly known as gypsy moth)
 - Cotton Boll Weevil
 - Imported Fire Ant
 - Spotted Lanternfly
 - Thousand Cankers Disease
- Serve to prevent the entry of plant pests and to slow the spread of pests to uninfested parts of the Commonwealth



Outreach and Communications

- Variety of outreach tools
 - Press releases, social media, website
- Attend meetings to present information and provide plant pest ID
 - Printed pamphlets
 - BMP's
 - Training
- Virginia Tech and Cooperative Extension; other state agencies



Noxious Weeds Species

- Tiered list of species
- Those species defined by the Noxious Weed Law
 - *Not all invasive plants are noxious*
- Mitigation, control, eradication, suppression, prohibition from sale/movement



2VAC5-317-20. Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 noxious weeds.

A. The following plants are hereby declared Tier 1 noxious weeds:

1. *Salvinia molesta*, Giant salvinia.
2. *Solanum viarum*, Tropical soda apple.
3. *Heracleum mantegazzianum*, Giant hogweed.

B. The following plants are hereby declared Tier 2 noxious weeds:

1. *Imperata cylindrica*, Cogon grass.
2. *Lythrum salicaria*, Purple loosestrife.
3. *Ipomoea aquatica*, Water spinach.
4. *Vitex rotundifolia*, Beach vitex.
5. *Oplismenus hirtellus* spp. *undulatifolius*, Wavyleaf basketgrass.
6. *Corydalis incisa*, Incised fumewort.

C. The following plants are hereby declared Tier 3 noxious weeds:

1. *Ailanthus altissima*, Tree of heaven.
2. *Ampelopsis brevipedunculata*, Porcelain berry.
3. *Celastrus orbiculatus*, Oriental bittersweet.
4. *Hydrilla verticillata*, Hydrilla.
5. *Persicaria perfoliata*, Mile-a-minute weed.

Visual Surveys in Virginia Nurseries

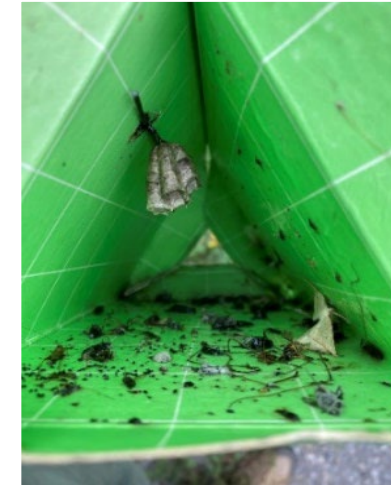
- Nurseries producing nursery stock are required to be inspected
- Scouting for plant pests
- Stop sale or mitigation requirements if damaging, invasive plant pests are found



CAPS

Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey

- Domestic agricultural pest detection system using surveys
- Early detection
- National priority pests (insects/diseases)
- Funding for staff through USDA-APHIS
- Purchase survey supplies directly



Plant Protection Act – Section 7721

- Provides federal grant funds for work in six categories, or goals
 - **Survey and Analysis**
 - Domestic Inspection
 - Increase ID Capacity and Strengthen Pest Detection Tech
 - Safeguard Nursery Production
 - **Outreach and Education**
 - **Enhance Mitigation and Rapid Response**
- Every year, OPIS submits proposals for grant dollars to the USDA-APHIS-PPQ
 - Summer/Fall deadline for submission
- Website: [USDA APHIS | Plant Protection Act Section 7721 Funding](#)

Virginia's 2022 awarded PPA 7721 surveys

- OPIS was awarded funding for three proposals

- Surveying for
 - *Phytophthora ramorum*
 - Forest Pests
 - Grape Commodity Pests

Virginia				
Goal	Project #	Title	Cooperator Type	Funding Level
15	15.0467	Grape Commodity Survey	State Government	\$30,902
15	15.0478	Forest Pest Survey	State Government	\$50,000
15	15.0481	Phytophthora Ramorum Survey	State Government	\$26,812
3	3.0193	CRISPR-Cas12a for Sensitive and Specific Detection of Xylella Fastidiosa Subspecies	Academia	\$59,470
TOTAL				\$167,184

PPA 7721 – 2022-23 Spending Plan

- USDA-APHIS-PPQ announces the award of their PPA spending plan early in the year (Feb/March)



- USDA-APHIS-PPQ

- Proposals are reviewed by State Plant Regulatory Officials (states) and USDA

- Tribal Nations will receive ~\$650,000 throughout the U.S.

Tribal Nations				
<i>NOTE: Cooperators whose projects target a Tribal audience, funding amount is incorporated into the state funding levels previously listed.</i>				
Goal	Project #	Title	Cooperator	Funding Level
1S	1S.0265	Forest Pest Survey	Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council	\$40,000
5	5.0291	Tribes in Maine Invasive Species Project	University of Maine	\$74,920
5	5.0407	Investing in our Future: Native American Seasonal Workers Conducting Outreach and Education to Tribal Communities	Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council	\$78,000
6	6.0293	Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe EAB Emergency Response	Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe	\$182,936
6	6.0418	WTCAC Board - Enhance Mitigation and Rapid Response on Tribal Lands	Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council	\$25,762
6	6.0600	Nez Perce Tribe Bio-control Project Noxious/Invasive Weed Survey and Control,	Nez Perce Tribe	\$250,000

Resources Available for Tribal Nations

- **VDACS**

- Inspection staff demonstrate survey work
- OPIS CAPS Coordinator – understanding agricultural pests and funding
- VA State Plant Regulatory Official – Developing, submitting and supporting a proposal

- **USDA-APHIS**

- Invasive Species Coordinator – phillip.c.andreozzi@usda.gov
- PPA 7721 funding – Program Manager - van.n.pichler@usda.gov
- PPQ Tribal Liaison – Carl.Etsitty@usda.gov

Thank you

- Questions or Comments
- David Gianino – david.gianino@vdacs.virginia.gov or (804) 786-3515
 - *State Plant Regulatory Official*
- Tina MacIntyre – tina.macintyre@vdacs.virginia.gov or (804) 786-3515
 - *CAPS Coordinator*