

Purpose of the Conference:

Over the last decade, the issue of exotic invasive plant species has risen to the top of the list of threats to native ecosystems around the U.S. and around the world. The cost to the U.S. economy has been estimated in the billions of dollars due to impacts to agricultural crops, ecotourism, groundwater, forests and wildlife management.

In the Southern Appalachian mountain region, there are at least fifteen non-native plants that are problematic, several of which are expanding rapidly into areas of rare native species, stream corridors and along edges of fields and forests. Agencies that manage our public lands – federal and state forests and parks—have been increasingly focusing on research and control of exotic invasive plants, and though some successes have been achieved, a steep learning curve remains. Much needs to be done in educating individual citizens and homeowners, as well, for many non-native plants introduced in backyard landscapes escape to become invasive problems on nearby public lands.

This conference addresses some particularly noxious plant species as well as what has or hasn't worked for managers of forestlands in the mountains of North Carolina and how best to engage the public in future control efforts.

Please join in this discussion!

HOSTED BY:

Western North Carolina Alliance
29 N. Market St., Suite 610
Asheville, NC 28801

Phone: (828) 258-8737

Fax: (828) 258-9141

Email: bob@wnca.org

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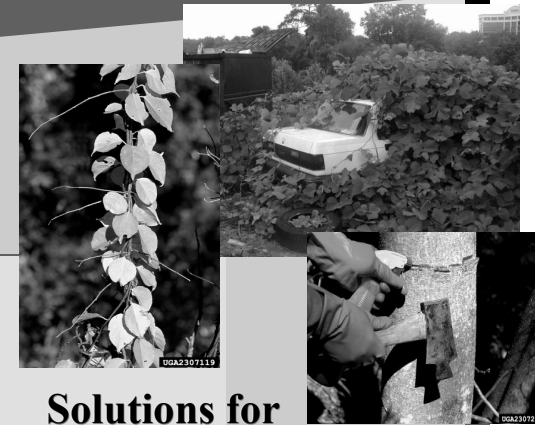
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Western North
Carolina Alliance
Presents:

Exotic Invasive Plants in Western North Carolina



**Solutions for
Control and
Habitat Restoration**

**Saturday,
September 8, 2007**

**Asheville Buncombe
Technical Community
College**

Co-Sponsored By:

Southern Appalachian Biodiversity
Project
Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition
Southern Environmental Law Center
Wildlaw, Inc.

Exotic Invasive Plants in Western North Carolina: Solutions for Control and Habitat Restoration

**FREE
Admission!**

9:00—9:30

Registration & Refreshments

9:30—9:45

Greeting & Introduction

Bob Gale, Ecologist,
Western North Carolina Alliance

9:45—10:15

**“Physiological Characteristics of
Three Invasive Species in the
North Carolina Mountains”**

Jonathan Horton, Assistant Professor of Biology,
University of North Carolina-Asheville

10:15—10:45

**“Plotting the Spread of Princess Tree
in Disturbed Mountain Forests”**

Dane Kuppinger, Visiting Instructor of Biology,
Sewanee: University of the South

10:45—11:00

Break

11:00—11:30

**“Responding to Invaders of Western
North Carolina’s State Parks”**

Marshall Ellis, N.C. Parks & Recreation, Western Region

11:30—12:00

**“Rare Hotspots, Rich Habitats,
Beginning Invasions...Where Do We
Focus Control?”**

Gary Kauffman, Botanist/Ecologist,
National Forests in North Carolina

12:00-1:15

Lunch

On Your Own/In AB Tech Cafeteria (Approx. \$6)

1:15—1:45

**“Great Smokies Successes and
Lessons for Invasives Control”**

Jesse Webster, Resource Manager,
Great Smoky Mountains National Park

1:45—2:15

**“Safe and Effective Use of Herbicides
in Southeastern National Parks:
One Tool in the IPM Toolkit”**

Toby Obenauer, Team Leader, National Park Service,
SE Exotic Plant Management Team

2:15—2:30

Break

2:30—3:00

**“Bringing it All Together:
Partnerships for Invasive Control
In Western North Carolina”**

Lindsay Majer,
Equinox Environmental Consultation and Design, Inc.

3:00—3:30

Closing Discussion:

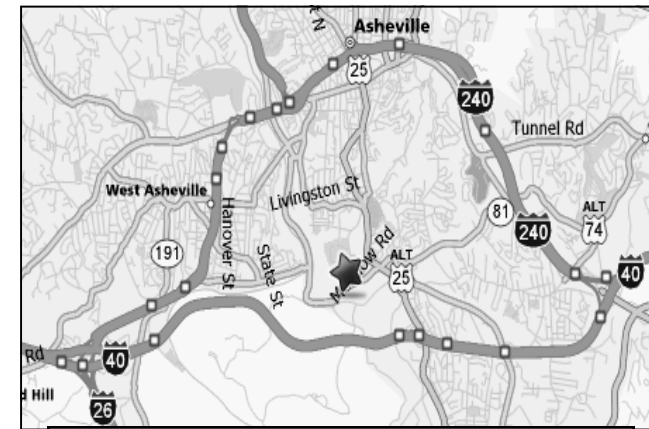
**“Your ideas on engaging citizens in
Invasive Exotic Plant Control”**

Facilitator: Bob Gale

3:30-3:45

Close

Saturday, September 8 9 am—3:45 pm
Simpson Building Lecture Room, AB Tech, Asheville, NC



Directions to AB Tech Campus

340 Victoria Road
Asheville, NC 28801
828-254-1921

Approaching from the East:

Take I-40 west to Exit 50-B (Biltmore Avenue US 25 North). Turn right off of exit and go straight to the 7th traffic light. Turn left onto Victoria Road; this will bring you straight onto the campus.

Approaching from the West:

Take I-40 east to Exit 50-A (Biltmore Avenue US 25 North). Turn left off of exit and go straight to the 7th traffic light. Turn left onto Victoria Road; this will bring you straight onto the campus.

Approaching from the South:

Take I-26 to I-40 junction. Follow center lane (I-240 to Asheville). Take Amboy Road exit and follow to end (will be a T-intersection). Turn right and go to the next traffic light. Turn left onto Victoria Road; this will bring you straight onto the campus.

Approaching from the North:

Take US 19/23 to Asheville. Follow “Patton Avenue Downtown” exit. Go to the 2nd traffic light and turn right onto South French Broad. Follow to the stop sign and turn left onto Livingstone Street. Follow to the end (will be a T-intersection) and turn right onto Victoria Road; this will bring you straight onto the campus.