Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Updates

10/9-10/20/17

Andrew Teal

* Surveyed a field out in Oulu township with Ben Dufford and Travis Tulowitzky to determine if the site was suitable for creating wetlands. Sidebar: this site has two buried natural gas pipelines, with a total right-of-way of 125 feet beyond the width of the actual pipes (marked by flags) which looked about 20-30 feet wide. This put some limits on what kind of work can be done and where on the property.
* Began compiling match documents and reporting materials for grants. One of our partners at the US Forest Service is willing to provide $1000 worth of time this year as match! That number is likely to increase, too! Other partners have also volunteered their time or offered professional hours as match.
* Mailed out AIS publications to the Pigeon Lake Association President for the members.
* Registered for the statewide AIS Coordinators meeting on November 1st and 2nd.
* Collaborated on and acted as a co-lead to make the 2017 Student Science Research Symposium happen. Susan Nelson and I plan this event as the “go out with a bang!” finale to our Invasive Species ID Day events that we host once a month from May-October. We had students from Washburn Middle School and Our Lady of the Lake School in attendance. We worked with the teachers to put them on a rotating schedule between booths, and groups had a checkoff list that we needed to initial so they got credit at each station (see example attached). Our headlining event of the day was an interactive presentation given by Jamie Kozloski, Executive Director and Founder of Kingdom Animalia Exotic Animal Rescue near Green Bay (quite a drive!) She brought up an African gray parrot, an iguana, and a Burmese python named Butterscotch. I don’t know if I have ever been part of an event that received such positive feedback as we did that day. The students loved it, and the teachers were psyched about coming back next year!