

March 17<sup>th</sup> 2024

### **Grant# ACEI32923 2023 end of year summary:**

2023 was a very productive year for invasive weed control for Grant # ACEI32923 at the Dane County Wings Over Wisconsin property. We completed 328 volunteer hours over the last 8 months of 2023. We concentrated our efforts on controlling our main problem species of phragmites and narrow leaf cattails. We also worked on controlling some woody invasive plants such as buckthorn and honeysuckle.

Spring: During the spring of the year we worked on mapping and monitoring the patches of phragmites and narrow leaf cattails. We also spot treated some other annual invasive plants around the property before they had a chance to get established.

Summer/Fall: During the summer and fall we worked with our herbicide spraying contractors Field and Stream to perform mass treatment of phragmites and narrow leaf cattails. They treated over 100 acres, and were very successful in their control efforts. They were able to bring in a specialized piece of access equipment called a Marsh Master to easily reach the most difficult spots. Their spraying has been every helpful over the years. We are seeing less and less invasive species each year and more native and wildlife such as bidens, rice cut grass, broadleaf arrowhead, river bulrush, wild rice, barnyard grass, and smart weed. We also took time to collect seeds from native plants to spread once the wetlands froze over.

Winter: In the winter we concentrated on woody invasive control and spreading native plant seeds during volunteer work outings.

2024: Looking forward to 2024, we have Good Oak Ecological Services contracted to perform prescribed burns on our property. Once that has been completed and this years round of spraying has been completed we will be filling paper work for reimbursement from the grant.

Thank you very much for your support! We very much look forward to working with the DNR into the future, and can not wait to see what we will accomplish in the years to come!