



INVASIVE PLANT CONTROL SLOW THE SPREAD FACT SHEET

LOCALLY-LED CONSERVATION - ORLEANS COUNTY DISTRICT



Japanese Knotweed

Overview

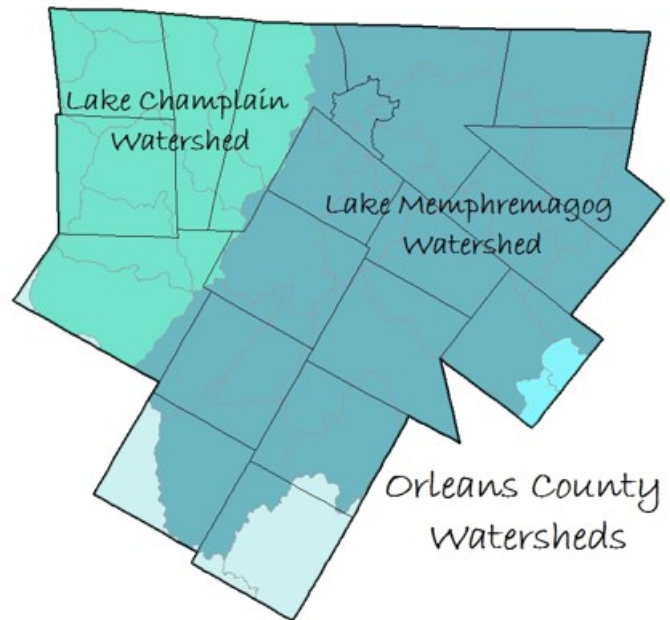
Locally-led conservation consists of a series of phases that involve community stakeholders in natural resource planning, the implementation of solutions, and evaluation of results. Locally-led conservation begins with the community itself, working through the local conservation district.

In May of 2022, the Orleans County Natural Resources Conservation District conducted surveys and hosted a Local Work Group (LWG) in-person meeting in Newport, Vermont. LWG participants concluded that riparian invasive plant control needs to be one of the priorities for a local fund pool proposal. These infestations can be addressed to mitigate the plant pest pressure natural resource concern early with the use of federal USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) funds. This year, the decision was made to continue funding this resource priority due to the high demand in 2022. The Memphremagog Tactical Basin Plan is our local action plan that reinforces the LWG's invasive species local fund pool priority conclusion.

FY24 Application Due Date

To have your application considered for this funding year, submit your application in by:

October 20th, 2023



Program is available in all of Orleans County VT

Conservation Practice Funding

Funding will be available for the 2024 federal fiscal year through the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) local fund pool. NRCS will provide a total of \$200,000 in financial assistance for approved conservation practices for the purpose of addressing this resource concern. Land and applicant FSA eligibility must be met to qualify for funding. For more information on EQIP, see <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/resources/guides-and-instructions/eqip-fact-sheet>

Resource Concerns Addressed

- Plant pest pressure
- Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates
- Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms
- Degraded plant condition
- Concentrated erosion



Program Priorities

- Projects within 20ft. of a waterbody or within a wetland
- Projects that include a group of landowners applying together
- Historically underserved applicants
- New NRCS applicants
- Large infestations (5 acres or more)
- Treatment of common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and/or Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*)
- Projects that include Conservation Cover (planting of native species)
- Projects that address sediment runoff into water bodies
- Projects that include multiple practices

Approved Practices for NRCS Financial Assistance

Core Conservation Practices included in the local ranking pool are listed below. These practices must address at least one of the five resource concerns selected and ranked above on the previous page.

314 Brush Management

315 Herbaceous Weed Treatment

327 Conservation Cover

384 Woody Residue Treatment

490 Tree and Shrub Site Preparation

612 Tree and Shrub Establishment



Phragmites

How to Apply

1. Contact the Newport USDA office at 59 Waterfront Plaza, Newport, VT to fill out Conservation Technical Assistance Request

2. Learn about signing up to work with NRCS at farmers.gov/working-with-us/USDA-service-centers



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