



2024

Invader Crusader Awards

presented by

The Wisconsin Invasive Species Council

Official Nomination Form and Instructions

June is Invasive Species Action Month! The Wisconsin Invasive Species Council announces the 20th annual Invader Crusader Awards, honoring Wisconsin citizens and organizations for their significant contribution to prevent, control or eradicate invasive species that harm Wisconsin's lands, waters, and wetlands.

The Council is requesting nominations for individuals, groups or organizations for their exemplary efforts at addressing issues surrounding terrestrial and aquatic invasive species, including plants, pests, animals, and disease-causing organisms. The Invader Crusader Awards will be presented to both volunteers and professionals. Please consider nominating adults and youth you work with or from your community.

Award winners for 2024 will be recognized in June via social media and news releases. An awards ceremony is being planned for June. Information about the winners will be shared on the Wisconsin Invasive Species Council website: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/invasives/InvasiveSpeciesCouncil>.

Nominators and award recipients may be contacted for additional information, including photos of the winners in action.

Please complete the nomination form on the following pages. Please include enough detail in your nomination so that judges can make informed decisions. Information such as estimate of area treated and the number of people impacted is particularly helpful. Supporting data, articles, news clippings and letters of support are also encouraged.

Non-winning nominations from 2022 and 2023 will be automatically considered for 2024 awards. Nominators are encouraged to provide updated information for these nominations, though this is not required. If you nominated previously and would like to provide an update, please fully complete the 2024 form and mark your form as an "updated nomination" in the provided space at the top of the page. Multiple applications for the same nominee will be accepted and considered together. We recommend when nominators are working collectively, to submit a single application package with all nominator's signatures and letters of support.

Email completed applications to invasive.species@wisconsin.gov by no later than **Sunday, February 18th 2024**. Email is strongly preferred. If this is not possible, please email invasive.species@wisconsin.gov for mailing instructions and an *earlier* due date.

Once the application period closes, a panel of judges will review the nomination materials and select the award winners. All nominators and winners will be notified in mid-April. Award recipients will be announced on the Council's website and through DNR social media posts in June.

2023 Invader Crusaders

Volunteer Individual

Jim Giffin
Nancy Gloe
Richard "Dick" Ballou

Professional Individual

Jaime Osterom
Matthew Wallrath
Mic Armstrong

Professional Group

Melinda Myers LLC
Mequon Nature Preserve

Volunteer Group

Friends of the Manitowoc River
Watershed
Silverwood Park Volunteers
Wehr Nature Center

Special Recognition

James Hughes
Julie Fox

**Invader Crusader Award
Nomination Application 2024**

Please save the following form and 6 questions with a new file name and return completed.

INSTRUCTIONS - Please save this application document with a new file name (including your last name and the nominee's last name), complete it, save again and email it to invasive.species@wisconsin.gov **by Sunday, February 18th, 2024**. If you have trouble filling out this form on your computer, print and then scan and email the completed copy. Please provide all information requested and include enough detail in your nomination so that judges can make informed decisions. Information such as an estimate of area treated and number of people impacted is particularly helpful. Supporting data, articles, news clippings and letters of support are also encouraged.

Invasive species work must have taken place in Wisconsin. Work that was done out of state will not be considered.

___ New nomination OR

___ Updated nomination (please tell us the year of your most recent submittal for this nominee: _____)

Nominee:			
Employer/Organization: (if applicable)		Position: (if applicable)	
Street Address:		City:	Zip Code:
Work/cell Phone Number:	Home Phone Number:		Email Address:
What time period did the nominees actions take place?			

Nominator (Your Name):			
Employer/Organization: (if applicable)		Position: (if applicable)	
Street Address:		City:	Zip Code:
Work/cell Phone Number:	Home Phone Number: same		Email Address:

Describe your relationship to the nominee:

Check all boxes that apply to the nominee

<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/> Research
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Education/Outreach
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> Prevention
<input type="checkbox"/> Group/Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> Surveys/Inventory
<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Early Detections
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit	<input type="checkbox"/> Control
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth	<input type="checkbox"/> Leadership

The Wisconsin Legislature created the Wisconsin Council on Invasive Species in 2001. The Council is charged with providing recommendations to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on invasive species classification and allocation of funds of invasive species control and conducting studies of issues related to controlling invasive species.

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Please save the following form and 6 questions with a new file name and return completed.

Support for Nomination

1. What geographical locations are impacted by the nominee's action (local, regional, statewide)?

2. Provide a brief description of what the nominee has done to earn your nomination.

3. What is the ecological impact of the nominee's actions?

4. Describe how the nominee has shown leadership or influenced people's actions or understanding of invasive species. Include approximate number of people influenced including ages (youth or adult) and type (professional, citizen, landowners, students, etc.) when possible.

5. Describe how the nominee has demonstrated innovation, if at all, in their impact on invasive species (for example, reaching a new or novel but critical audience, utilizing cutting edge technology, management tools or outreach tools, etc.).

6. Describe any other aspects of the nominee that are worth noting and **not already mentioned above**. (Consider things directly relating to invasive species such as: involvement in public or organizational policy, landowner group involvement, unique outreach efforts, vision for lasting impact of efforts, etc.)

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