

MARYLAND INVASIVE PLANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2014

9:30-Noon

Maryland Department of Agriculture

50 Harry S. Truman Parkway

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Call to order 9:35 am by Kerrie Kyde, Chairperson

- Meeting will be run informally; no objections

Members present:

Kerrie Kyde, Carol Holko, Deborah Landau, Jason Phippen, Ian Spotts, John Peter Thompson (by phone)

Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes

- We did not have a quorum (Ian had not yet arrived), so were not able to approve the minutes.

Changes to the Agenda

- Add discussion of exemptions as per NY, in time allowed

Tier 2 Signage

- The sign design has been finalized, and will be sent to Vanessa, for her to distribute to MNLA for input and comment by Feb 28. Comments will be sent directly to KK.
- Carol brought a copy of State regulations for producing signs.
- Carol will make web page live and include a thumbnail of the sign, plus a place for comments. She will email the group a screen shot first.

Phase-outs:

Questionnaire:

- Our questionnaire will be sent out by Survey Monkey (Carol will put it together). Will say something to the effect of "trying to determine the economic impact on nurserymen and retailers, please fill out this survey if you would like your input incorporated into our analysis."
- Concurrent to the Survey Monkey, Carol will put out a press release about the survey, and inform relevant groups (such as the MNLA).
- Carol will revise the questionnaire, making all questions pull-downs.
- Carol will write the intro paragraph.

Disposal guidelines:

- Would need approval from Secretary for exemptions to prohibited activities.
- Discussion about whether we want blanket exceptions. Could have a general permit with on-line application.
- If Tier 1 plants are moved, will we require materials to be covered, to prevent propagule dispersal?

- What location information would be required? County? Lat/long? Name of area/park? Maybe would offer all of these as options.
- *At next meeting, will discuss this in greater detail (general permit, and procedure for disposal)*

Specialty crop block grant update:

- KK needs to get internal approval from her management team for her to do the assessments; should know by February.

WRA's:

- See November minutes for overview
- WRA over-estimates low-risk species
- Need Sylvan for this discussion

Botanical Heritage Working Group:

- KK discussed the final report to the General Assembly; said it's a compelling report.

Next meeting February 11, 2014

- IV. Signage review for Tier 2 plants – Wilsey and Hemming
Final sign version
MNLA response to finished draft – Hemming
Timing/process for regulatory adoption
- V. Phase-outs – Kyde and Hemming
Review questionnaire for MNLA members re timing for in-ground woody stock Catalog review for potential Tier 1–2 species -- Hemming
MDA AG word on guidelines for disposing of Tier 1 plants from nurseries/retail shops -- Holko
- VI. Update on use of Specialty Crop Block Grant funds for assessor position – Holko, Neel
- VII. WRAs – Resolution of Conser concerns about Koop model – Kaufman, JPT

Impact data – use of students/volunteers to comb DNR database – Neel,
Kyde

VIII. BHWG Update

Final version of report to General Assembly/Governor

Adjourn

Maryland Invasive Plant Advisory Committee
Tuesday, November 18, 2014
Maryland Department of Agriculture
Annapolis, Maryland
MINUTES

Call to order 9:33 am by Kerrie Kyde, Chairperson

- Meeting will be run informally; no objections

Welcome and Introductions

- Members present:

Kerrie Kyde	Sylvan Kaufman	Deborah Landau	Maile Neel
Mike Hemming	Kevin Wilsey	Carol Holko	Jason Pippen
- Other attendees:
Jake Robinson
Regina Robinson
Matt Teffeu (Asst. Director of Government Relations – MD Farm Bureau)

Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes

- September 9, 2014 meeting minutes were approved

Changes to the Agenda

- None

Weed Risk Assessment (WRA) Process

- Carol Holko – can the Maryland Filter be posted to website?
 - Kerrie Kyde – it is still in draft form but will be considered
- Committee reviewed the draft WRA for *Wisteria sinensis* to discuss questions, rankings, and overall format of document
 - *Wisteria* is the closest WRA to being finished
 - Other WRAs in development are:
 - *Euonymus alatus*
 - *Nandina domestica*
 - *Ligustrum obtusifolium*
 - *Ligustrum sinense*
 - *Ligustrum vulgare*
 - *Lonicera maackii*
 - *Geranium lucidum*
 - Sylvan Kaufman
 - Prevalent in Pacific northwest and is taking over forests
 - Good test WRA for species that are not yet established in Maryland
 - Is not currently being sold in Maryland
- 3 assessment categories
 - Ability to establish or spread
 - Impact on environment, human structures, agriculture, and trade
 - Geographic – where could it occur?
- Geographic

- Utilizing Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) database of invasive species
 - Runs search of occurrences
 - Removes instances of no locations, wrong species, cultivation, etc.
 - Creates a map of locations which includes data on:
 - Hardiness zones
 - Climate classes
 - Precipitation bands
 - Map shows where data intersects and what locations are suitable for the species to establish within the world/US
- A Monte Carlo simulation is run to determine the level of uncertainty in the model with all possible answers to the WRA questions based on user input for uncertainty. These results are presented graphically to show the risk category in which 50%, 95%, and 99% of the responses fall. Where species fall into the moderate risk, or Evaluate Further category, the Monte Carlo simulation aids in assigning a final risk category.

Maryland Filter

- New edits:
 - Added a question if the species is currently naturalized in Maryland
 - Changed the threatened/endangered species question to: “*Does it or could it* threaten T/E species of ecosystems?”
- Kevin Wilsey – Should the ‘currently naturalized’ question come earlier in the filter to prevent species from getting here?
 - Sylvan Kaufman will look into this
- Carol Holko – add language to filter to say exactly why a species is being run through the MD filter
 - Kerrie Kyde – species with a risk rating of ‘high risk’ go through the MD filter
- Maile Neel – is there anything that can be done to automate record searches, etc.?
 - Kerrie Kyde – is looking into making modifications to spread sheets to explore possible efficiencies
- Maile Neel – does wisteria ranking seem reasonable (high risk invader / Tier II)?
 - Sylvan Kaufman – yes – it is widely distributed and mostly spreads from plantings
- Mike Hemming – did most of this information/research come from the internet?
 - Sylvan Kaufman – yes – the reviewers can access many journals and libraries from home, but access to these are not always publicly available

Regulatory Update

- Carol Holko distributed the latest draft of the regulations for review
 - Added 3 definitions: Off-site; Transport; and Commercial entity
 - Rewrote section for blanket approval for removals
 - Created a placeholder for the Tier I/II lists
- Tier II sign
 - Working on finalizing the URL for the website
 - May host on MDA server instead of creating a vanity name

Next Steps/Assignments

- Maryland Filter

- **ACTION ITEM** – Sylvan Kaufman – will look into making any additional edits and send to group for review
- WRA
 - **ACTION ITEM** – All – review format of WRA report and send comments to Sylvan Kaufman
- Threatened/Endangered Species
 - **ACTION ITEM** – Kerrie Kyde – request DNR heritage for more information on T/E species and impacts of invasives
- Regulations
 - **ACTION ITEM** – All – review regulations and send comments to Carol Holko

Next Meeting

- December meeting is on-hold pending updates from Carol Holko. Meeting will be conducted via phone/email depending on need.

Meeting adjourned by Kerrie Kyde at 12:35 pm.