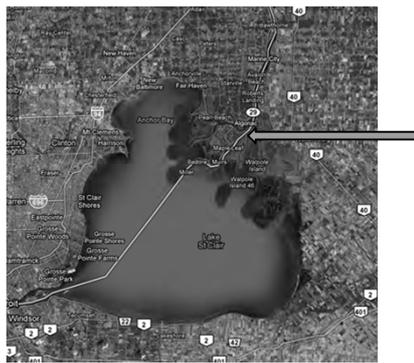


Clay Township Phragmites Management Program

July 2015



By Bob Williams
Clay Township Phragmites Management Advisory Board
Bob@Phragmites.org



SEMCOG and Ducks Unlimited survey around Lake St. Clair



Clay Township – 8,660 acres →

(16% of the total area of Clay Township is phragmites)

(70% of the 12,300 acre total acres of phragmites around Lake St. Clair)

Communities with Phragmites by Acreage	
1,000 to 30,000 Acres	
Clay Twp	8,660.73
100 to 1000 Acres	
Bay Twp	505.39
East China Twp	500.34
Warren Twp	508.53
100-400 Acres	
Clare Twp	457.36
Channahon Twp	315.85
Columbia Twp	273.84
Marion Twp	148.17
Casco Twp	148.35
Clifton Twp	130.17
Linton Twp	104.35
10 to 100 Acres	
New Baltimore	87.06
Warren	60.19
Shelby Heights	39.54
Marion City	38.78
Albion	37.04
Detroit	35.07
New Haven	26.38
St. Clair	26.33
Rowland	22.01
Mount Clemens	18.68
St. Clair Shores	12.79
Shelby Twp	11.44
1 to 10 Acres	
Richmond	8.77
Warren	6.38
Ray Twp	6.37
Hartwood	3.60
Richmond Twp	2.90
Columbia Twp	2.40
Grass Point Farms	1.90
St. Clair Twp	1.38
Clare Twp	1.17
Grass Point Shores (Btwn)	1.07
Madison Heights	0.84
Richmond (St. Clair)	0.81
Grass Point Park	0.53
Grass Point	0.58
Total	11,730.88





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Some communities

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Clay Township



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WE KNOW THE PROBLEMS

- Fills in canals, rivers and streams
- Reduces water flow capacity
- Clogs water intakes
- Reduces native plant and animal population and diversity
- Dries out wetlands
- Navigation hazard on roads and waterways

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Clay Twp. residents' greatest concerns



Blocks views

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Fire Hazard



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Limits access to recreation



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Reduces property values



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- In the mid-1990's the DNR started Phragmites Control at St. John's Marsh, Clay Township, St. Clair County



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Year 2003

Began Phragmites control at Stewart Farm



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September 2005



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Workshop topics

- Why should we control Phragmites?
- How does it spread?
- How can we distinguish it from native plants?
- What is the best control method without chemicals?
- What is the best control method with chemicals?
- Where can we get them?
- How much do they cost?
- What safety practices do we need to follow?
- What equipment do we need?
- When should we treat it, burn it or mow it?
- Do we need to get any permits?

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October 2005

- Harsens Island Phragmites Committee was formed by 5 residents.
- Over the next 5 years
 - Phragmites.org
 - Workshops
 - Permits
 - Treatment
 - Chemicals
 - Samples
 - Equipment

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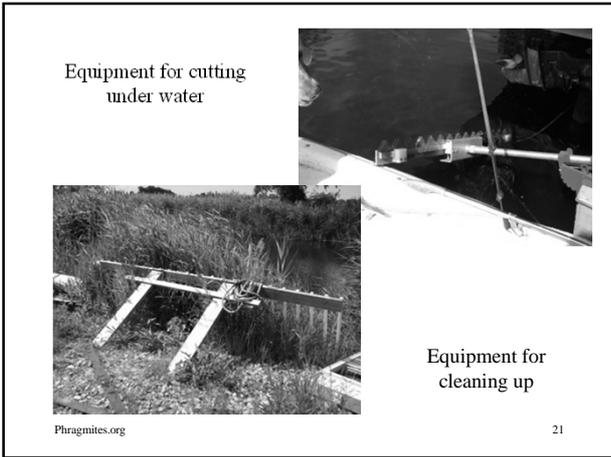
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Local residents developed specialized equipment



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Equipment for cutting over water



Equipment for cutting under water

Equipment for cleaning up

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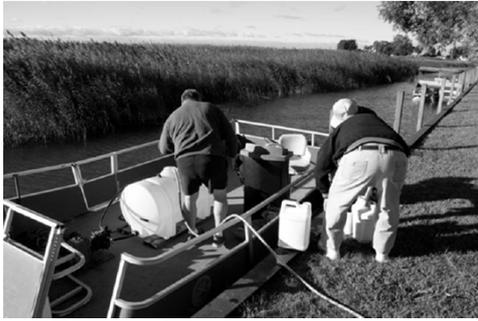
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2005-2009

- Harsens Island Phragmites Committee worked as an unofficial, unregistered committee of citizens to help each other solve a problem which was common within the community.

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February 2010

Initiation of the Clay Township Phragmites Management Program

- Clay Township Supervisor and Ernie Kafcas
- Four months, 50 property owners and government representatives

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The Problems Identified

Property owner needs

- Knowledge
- Contractors
- Assistance treating
- Coordination
- Chemicals
- Equipment
- Permits.

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Clay Township PAB and Phragmites Management Plan and Program

May 2010 Clay Township Board appointed Phragmites Management Advisory Board

June 2010 **Resolutions** of Plan and Program

- Property owner needs
- Coordinator and a volunteer organization
- Surveying the infestations
- Priority treatment areas
- Sources of funding

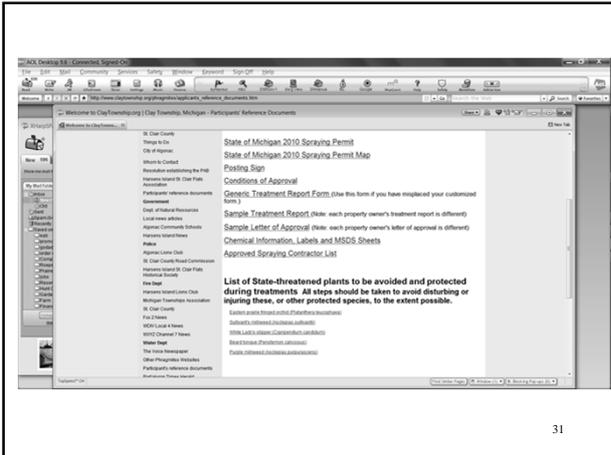
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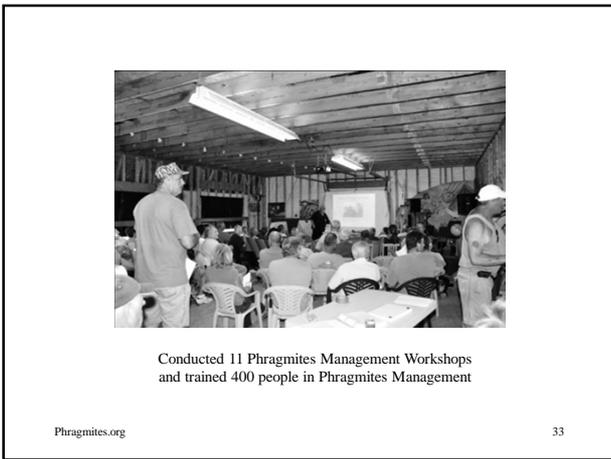


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Sign and hotline



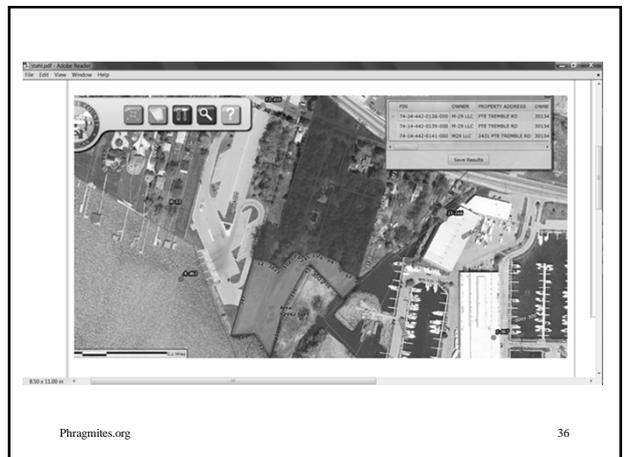
Conducted 11 Phragmites Management Workshops and trained 400 people in Phragmites Management

Clay Township Spraying and Mowing Permits

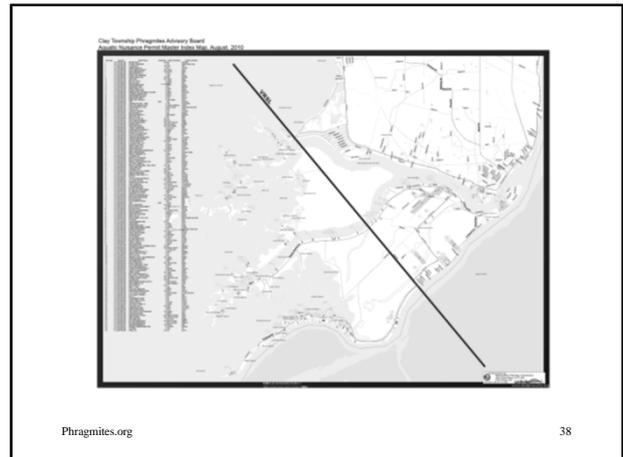
Annually – 350 Spraying permits & 100 mowing permits

- Application
- Database
- Inspection
- Consultation
- Workshop
- Permits
- Approval letter
- Treatment
- Reports

#	Last	Volunteer/Representative	Project/City	FIN #	Phragmites Workshop	Representative	Phone	Email
1	Matt	Alexander	1803 Stewart Harmons Island	74-14-433-00 Full	rep	Bob Williams	810-580-8325	1803 Steve
2	Ther	Algonquin Marsh Club	1700 Pointe V. Algonquin	74-03-122-00 Full	rep	Bobby Brown	810-794-4448	1700 Pointe
3	Kevin	Allen	6080 Middle C Harmons Island	74-14-805-01 Full	2009		810-748-9470	6080 Middle
4	Don	Bedford	8400 Oak Grove Harmons Island	74-14-933-00 Full	2010		313-580-1234	8400 Oak Grove
5	Andrew	Agnew	104 Edgewood Algonquin	74-01-159-00 Full	2010		586-432-4383	104 Edgewood
6	Rosetta	Ballou	8563 Knoxville Clay Twp.	74-14-032-00 Full	2010		810-794-8230	8563 Knoxville
7	Tony	Beard	2600 Columbus Harmons Island	74-14-628-00 Full	2009		810-100-1186	2600 Columbus
8	Carol	Barnes	3860 Middle C Harmons Island	74-14-779-00 Full	2010		586-751-5602	3860 Middle C
9	Ellen	Barclay	5385 Crown C Harmons Island	74-14-847-00 Full	rep	Chuck Miller	810-748-9077	5385 Crown C
10	Angelo	Batterson	5238 Pointe C Clay Twp.	74-14-051-00 Full	rep		810-335-2882	5238 Pointe C
11	Charles	Beard	7900 N. River - Colterville	74-14-000-00 Full	2010		810-335-2882 / 810-705-4100	7900 N. River
12	William	Beck	4005 Middle C Harmons Island	74-14-433-00 Full	2010		248-229-8980	4005 Middle C
13	James	Beard	7920 South C Harmons Island	74-14-847-01 Full	2010		586-758-8007	7920 South C
14	Roy	Blanchard	3364 North C Harmons Island	74-14-748-00 Full	*	Bob Miller	810-748-9370	3364 North C
15	James	Blanchard	8700 Oak Grove Clay Twp.	74-14-933-01 Full	2010		810-100-1234	8700 Oak Grove
16	Chris	Blanchard	Russell Rd. - Russell Island	74-14-902-00 Full	2010		248-496-8158	Russell Rd.
17	Joe	Blawie	7000 Marsh H Harmons Island	74-14-847-04 Full	2009	Chuck Miller	748-3387	7000 Marsh H
18	William	Blawie	North Chasne Harmons Island	74-14-748-00 Full	rep	Chuck Miller	810-523-9883	North Chasne
19	Robert	Brayton	7820 South C Harmons Island	74-14-847-02 Full	2010		810-523-9883	7820 South C
20	Robert	Brayton	8900 Wood C Harmons Island	74-14-800-01 Full	2010		810-523-9883	8900 Wood C
21	Fred	Brayton	North Chasne Russell Island	74-14-902-02 Full	2009			North Chasne
22	John & Rosemary	Brown	14600 Oak Grove Clay Twp.	74-14-933-02 Full	2010		586-312-8779 or 465-363	14600 Oak Grove
23	John	Calanone	8975 North C Harmons Island	Full	2010		586-805-8633	8975 North C



MailingAddress	MailingCity	MailingState	MailingZip	Approval	Vial	Above/BEL	Area	Phragmites	Glyphosate	Surf	Feet	Special Condition
3803 Stewart	Hurons Island	MI	48028	Yes	Y	Y	5.0	18	1.5			contractor
3909 Radio Road Rd.	Alpena	MI	48801	Yes	Y	Y	5.0	36	3			contractor
4680 Middle Channel	Hurons Island	MI	48028	Yes	Y	N	.5	3	0.25			Margins of prop self
3862 St. John	Alpena	MI	48808	Yes	Y	N	.4	2.4	0.2			self
324 Edgewater Dr.	Alpena	MI	48801	Yes	Y	Y	.1	0.6	0.05			self
3063 Starville Rd.	Clay Twp.	MI	48001	Yes	Y	Y	.77	4.62	0.39			self
8004 Marine	Clay Twp.	MI	48001	Yes	Y	Y	5.4	8.4	0.7			self
30309 Lonsdale Ave	Warren	MI	48093	Yes	Y	Y	.1	0.6	0.05			Outliers contractor
3048 Green Dr.	Hurons Island	MI	48028	Yes	Y	N	.14	0.84	0.07			self
103 Bow 142	Clay Twp.	MI	48001	Yes	Y	Y	.2	1.2	0.1			May be dropped
2880 S. River Rd.	Marion City	MI	48839	Yes	Y	Y	.11	0.66	0.06			No permit required
13413 Hart	Clay Park	MI	48237	Yes	Y	Y	.1	0.6	0.05			10' along canal self
1638 South Channel Dr.	Hurons Island	MI	48028	Yes	Y	N	.1	0.6	0.05			self
3144 South Channel	Hurons Island	MI	48028	Yes	Y	Y	2.77	16.42	1.39			self
589 Milliner Rd.	East China	MI	48854	Yes	Y	N	.1	1.8	0.15			self
1238 Kambledge	Becherow	MI	48827	Yes	Y	Y	.14	0.84	0.07			self
2833 Masonic	St. Clair Shores	MI	48080	Y	Y	N	.1	0.6	0.06			self
30403 Colburne Dr.	Clifton Twp.	MI	48138	Yes	Y	Y	.5	3	0.25			self
3030 South Channel Dr.	Hurons Island	MI	48028	Yes	Y	N	.3	1.8	0.15			self
103 Bow 2000	Hurons Island	MI	48028	Yes	Y	N	.56	3.3	0.28			self
304 Lunar Blvd.	Oxford	MI	48055	Yes	Y	Y	6.0	36	3			self
28403 Burnick St.	Hamilton Twp.	MI	48045	Yes	Y	N	.5	3	0.25			johnbump@contractor
8000 Marine Rd.	Clayton	MI	48064	Yes	N	Y	2.5	1.5	0.13			self



Herbicide Distribution

- Application
- Workshop
- Order and Pay
- Township purchases
2.5 and one gallon
bottles by the pallet
- Homeowner pickup

Volunteers and Donations

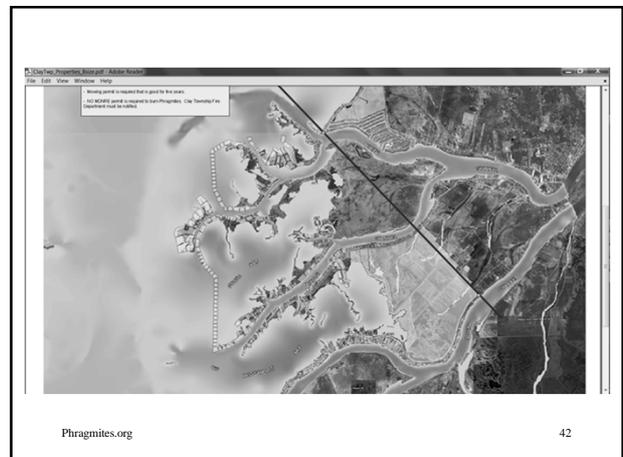
- Over 100 properties treated by volunteers
- 15 foot boat and outboard
- 24 foot pontoon boat
- \$4000

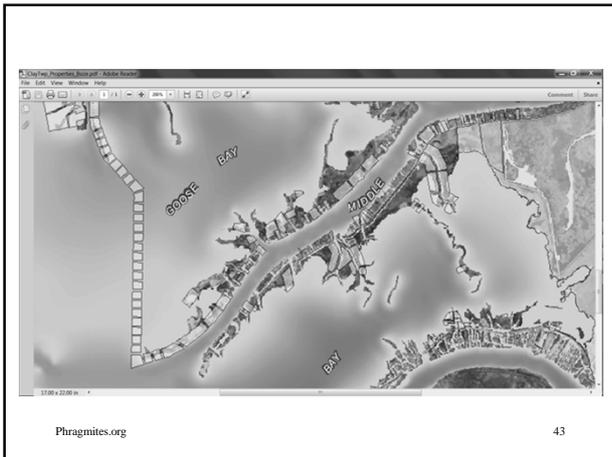
Purchased

- trailer and 100 gallon sprayer
- Sprayer for pontoon boat
- Backpack sprayers

Coordination

- Interview certified contractors
- Make list available
- Contractor permits included with Township
- Obtain State approval to treat State lands
- Coordinate adjacent property owners
- Establish neighborhood coordinators
- Other agencies





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Local contractor, Bobby Bryson purchased a Marshmaster
GreatLakesPhragmitesCutter.com



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Other agencies

- MDNR
- MDOT
- SEMCOG
- SCC Planning Commission
- SCC Road Commission
- SCC Drain Commission
- Algonac
- Cottrellville
- Ira

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View Enhancement



before



after

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Ecosystem Restoration



before



after

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Recreational Access



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Fire Safety



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Lessons Learned

- Generally the public is more interested in restoring their view, their access to recreation, property values and their fire safety than they are in increasing biodiversity.
- There are people who want to keep their Phragmites, usually for privacy purposes.
- There are people who do not want any herbicide used anywhere in the community.
- It is difficult for a volunteer based stewardship group, even when associated with a local government, to get financial support through grants.

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Additional Comments

- Michigan DEQ spraying permits should be extended to be valid for a five year period, to match the mowing permit.
- Spraying and mowing permits should be coordinated to be issued through a single application process.
- Other townships in our area have discussed having a similar program but so far they have been unsuccessful in doing so. We believe the problem may be that the phragmites is not as big a problem in their township as it is in Clay Township. This may suggest the need for a more regional homeowner assistance program in areas where the phragmites problem is limited.

Phragmites.org

Additional Comments

- Sustainability – The current grant regulations do not encourage sustainability.
- Grants should not limit the use of funds to only private or only public lands. These are intermixed.
- Our services and treatment recommendations are directed at the homeowner, while most research and recommendations are based on large scale projects. Homeowners have little money, free labor and want to see it gone now. We don't recommend Imazapyr.

Phragmites.org

References

www.ClayTownship.org

www.Phragmites.org

Phragmites.org

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