Invasive species are the biggest threat to our local habitats.

We work to conserve the habitats of Harrison County Indiana by educating our community on the impacts of invasive species.



Extension



Harrison County is home to some of the rarest habitats in the country: glades and barrens. These special areas can support dozens of species in a single square foot, making them a biodiversity hotspot. That's something to be proud of!













The Harrison County Native Habitat Alliance meets on the 4th Monday of every month.

We welcome anyone who lives or works in Harrison County to join us and learn more about what we do and how you can help.

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Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/HCNativeHabitatAlliance



What is an invasive species?

What is a native species?

Why should you care?

An invasive species is a species that is not native and causes harm to our economy, environment, or human health.

This doesn't mean that all non-native species are invasive. Invasive plants are destructive and expensive to control once they become a problem. Many were introduced as ornamentals in landscaping and got out of control.

Poison hemlock, shown below, is a toxic invasive species whose sap can cause severe burns and blisters. In Harrison County, it has become a big problem along trails and roadsides, and in pastures and fields.



A native species is one that occurs naturally in an area and has evolved in harmony with the species nearby to form complex relationships that depend on one another to thrive.



Ask us about a free landowner survey!

We can help you identify any invasive species on your property and provide guidance on how to remove them. As a bonus, you may also learn about the invaluable native species on your property at the same time.

- Invasive species reduce biodiversity by crowding out native plants, insects, and animals.
- Invasive species don't support our native insects, and less insects means less food available for birds to feed their young.
- You depend on native species! The food you eat is pollinated largely by native species, not just honeybees.
- Invasive species reduce your ability to enjoy the outdoors. They crowd forest floors and choke trees, tangle up waterways and poison cattle.

What you can do:

- Choose native plants for landscaping.
- Learn to identify and remove invasive plants from your property.
- Tell your friends.
- Volunteer your time to help remove invasives from your public lands.