

What Are Other States Doing?

Connecticut Invasive Plant Actions

CIPWG Symposium: October 11, 2016
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT



Connecticut

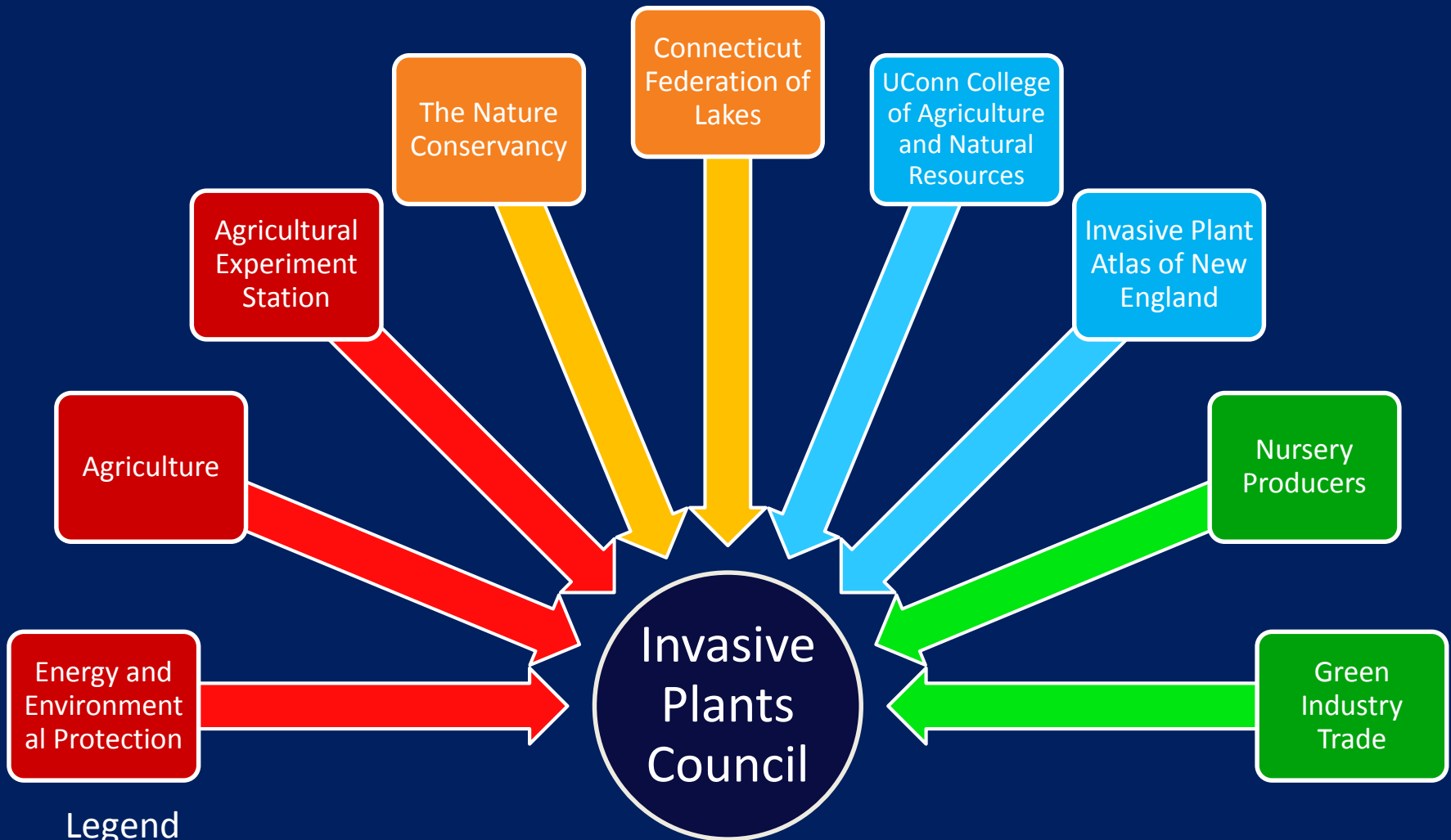
1) Legislation:

- Invasive Plant Council
- Invasive & Prohibited Species lists
- Issues: bamboo & cultivars
- Municipal preemption

2) Agency Programs:

- Program efforts & changing capacity

Connecticut Invasive Plants Council



Legend



State Agencies



Non-governmental Orgs.



Academia



Industry

Connecticut Species Lists



- Invasive Plant Lists: majority vote of Council. 97 species
- Invasive & Potentially invasive lists: Nine criteria. Key criteria are capacity for rapid spread and high abundance in natural environments
- Prohibited Plant List: 2/3 vote of Council to recommend to Legislature. 80 species

Species List Controversies



- Running Bamboo: Landscaped vs Natural Habitats
- Cultivars: How to deal with cultivars of prohibited species?
Partnership: Nursery industry voluntarily phase-out high-seed producing barberry cultivars
Research: UConn developing “sterile” cultivars.

➤ Enforcement Challenges:

- Consumer reports of violations are common
- Typically handled collaboratively with Industry via information/education
- Loss of capacity

➤ Prohibition on Municipal Ordinances Banning Invasive Plants: Ended October 1, 2014

DEEP Invasive Plant Actions



Treating for invasive plants prior to doing timber harvests.



DEEP Invasive Plant Actions



Controlling Phragmites

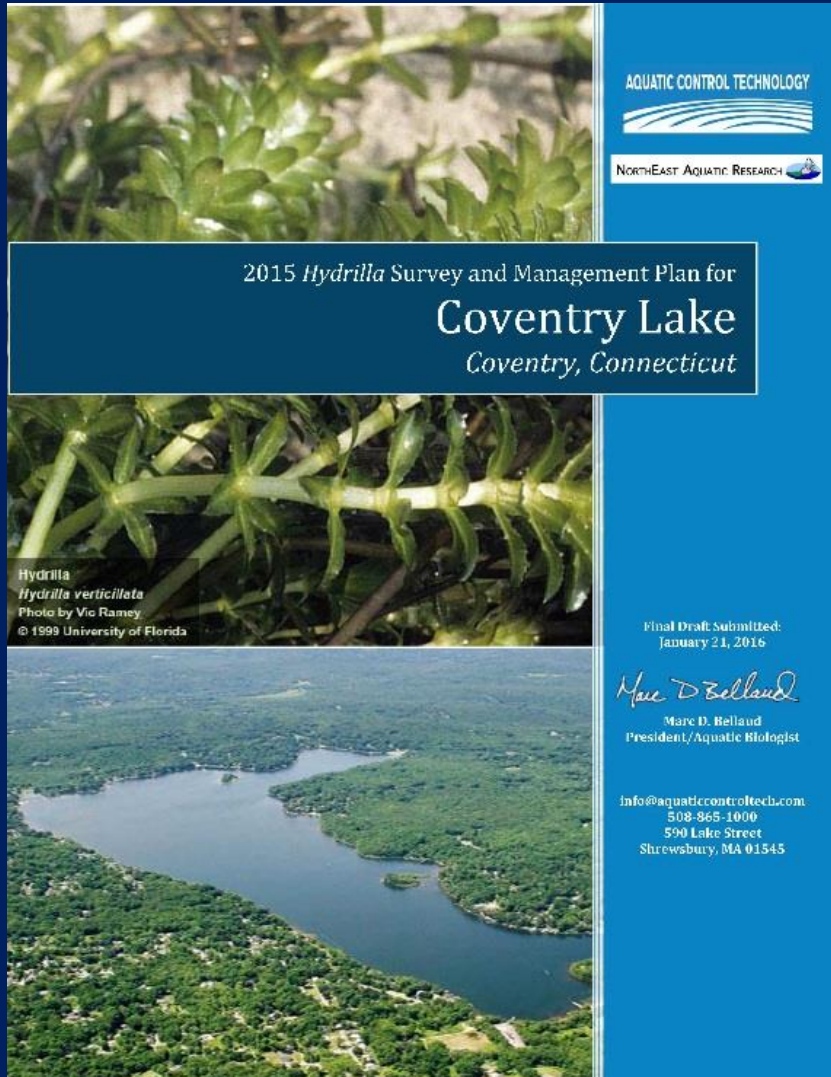


DEEP Invasive Plant Actions

Invasive Plant control
while enhancing wildlife
habitat (ex: young forest
habitat for New England
Cottontail)



DEEP Invasive Plant Actions

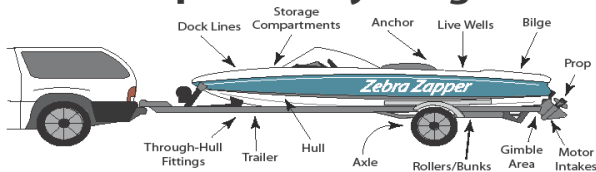


Rapid response to
invasions: Ex Hydrilla in
Coventry Lake

DEEP Invasive Plant Actions

Help Stop the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Weeds!

Before Leaving & Before Launching...
Inspect Everything!



*Before leaving or launching: remove all plant fragments
and dispose of them on land or in trash!*

Aquatic invasive weeds replace useful native plants,
destroy fisheries, ruin swimming areas, foul motors and
propellers, and spread from small fragments.

STATE LAW

No person shall transport a vessel or trailer without
inspecting for & properly removing and disposing
any such vegetation (CGS 15-180).

\$95 fine per violation



For more information, contact
Connecticut SeaGrant/UConn at 860-405-9107 or the
CT Department of Environmental Protection
Boating Division at 860-434-8638



Outreach & Education:
Inspections and signage at
boat launch areas



Keep Moving the Needle in Tough Times

- Partnerships: CIPWG, Universities, Industry
- Continue conducting educational outreach to increase public awareness and provide training for municipalities, conservation organizations, agencies, and the public
- Opportunities for interstate collaboration?

