INVASIVE SPECIES

2025 CALENDAR

Minnesota Invasive Species
Advisory Council

Advisory Council

This calendar was produced and distributed by the Minnesota Invasive Species Advisory Council (MISAC). MISAC is a statewide entity that:

- Promotes communication and cooperation among organizations involved in invasive species issues.
- Coordinates outreach on invasive species.
- Supports statewide and multi-state conferences related to invasive species issues.
- Supports trainings and field visits related to invasive species.
- Recognizes outstanding and noteworthy work related to invasive species and encourages such work through the Carol Mortensen Award.
- Advocates for research and management for the species and pathways deemed greatest risk.

The MISAC website (**www.mninvasives.org**) provides additional information about invasive species in Minnesota. This website is a gateway to invasive species information including species profiles, contact information for experts in Minnesota and links to other related websites.

MISAC Mission Statement

To provide leadership to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic and terrestrial invasive species and reduce their harmful impacts on Minnesota landscapes, economies, and the people of Minnesota by promoting invasive species awareness, prevention, and management through research, education and regulation in cooperation with local, state, tribal, and federal partners.

Invasive Species Threats

Invasive species are nonnative plants, animals and pathogens that cause environmental damage, economic loss or harm to human health. These pests can displace native species, harm habitats, and degrade natural, managed, and agricultural landscapes.

In addition to harming our natural resources, invasive pests can pose serious economic threats to major Minnesota industries such as agriculture, tourism and forestry. Some estimates peg the economic damage of invasive pests in the U.S. at more than $130 billion a year.

Public awareness and action are the keys to preventing the spread of invasive species. Please use the information in this calendar to help inform the public about the invasive species problem and how they can take action to reduce invasive species spread and harm.

Find contact information for two agencies with invasive species responsibilities in Minnesota on the back of this calendar. These agencies, as well as other MISAC members, can provide informational products such as brochures, species identification cards and videos about invasive species.

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The information contained in this document is current as of the date of publication. Because laws can change, it is important to check to see if there have been any changes or updates to applicable laws and regulations.

MISAC
Minnesota Invasive Species Advisory Council

This information can be made available in alternative formats such as large print, braille or audio tape by emailing **info.dnr@state.mn.us** or by calling 651-259-6157.

Printed on recycled paper containing 10 percent post-consumer waste and vegetable-based ink. Minnesota-made paper.

FSC Logo

EWR_0007_24

Report Invasive Species

One of the keys for a rapid response to invasive species is the early identification of new occurrences. Please report occurrences of invasive species in Minnesota to the following:

- Minnesota Department of Agriculture Report a Pest at: 888-545-6684 or **reportapest@state.mn.us** to report invasive plants, insects, or diseases such as Palmer amaranth, Asian longhorn beetle, emerald ash borer, boxwood blight and sudden oak death.
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Invasive Species Program at: 651-296-6157 or 888-646-6367 to report invasive aquatic plants or wild animals such as Eurasian watermilfoil, zebra mussels, invasive carp, round goby, jumping worms and mute swans.
- EDDMapS website or EDDMapS app at: **www.eddmaps.org**
- Or, as specified for individual species in this calendar.

MISAC Members

The Minnesota Invasive Species Advisory Council includes these members: 1854 Treaty Authority, Association of Minnesota Counties, Carlton County Soil & Water Conservation District, Carver County Water Management Organization, Cass County Soil & Water Conservation District, Cook County Soil & Water Conservation District, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Hennepin County Public Works, Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Meeker County AIS, Metropolitan Mosquito Control District, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center, Minnesota Association of County Agricultural Inspectors, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center, Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association, The Nature Conservancy, Three Rivers Park District, University of Minnesota, University of Minnesota – Extension, University of Minnesota Sea Grant Program, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Department of Agriculture – Animal Plant Health Inspection Service – Plant Protection and Quarantine, U.S. Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. National Park Service, Wild Rivers Conservancy and Wildlife Forever.

GOLDEN MUSSEL

Limnoperna fortunei

Keys to ID:

- Paired, elongated shells with a flattened edge on one side, typically ¾-1¼ inches long.
- Shells are yellow, tan or golden.
- Strong fibers called byssal threads attach mussels to solid surfaces.

Photo: Paige Kuczmarski, Alberta Invasive Species Council, Bugwood.org

What is it?
Golden mussels are small, freshwater bivalves (mollusks with two shells).

Impacts:
- Accumulates on pipes and other infrastructure, impeding its use and causing economic impacts from additional required maintenance.
- Reduces phytoplankton and zooplankton in the water column resulting in food web impacts.
- Promotes conditions favoring blooms of toxic cyanobacteria.
- Negatively impacts native mussels.

Origin:
Southeast Asia

Status:
Golden mussels have not been found in Minnesota or elsewhere in North America as of mid-2024.

Where to look:
Attached to docks, rocks, plants and other solid substrates underwater.

Regulatory classification (agency):
Golden mussels are a *prohibited invasive species* (DNR).

Means of spread:
Golden mussels are likely transported overseas by contaminated ballast water. Subsequent inland spread is similar to zebra mussels with transportation of larval veligers by water movement via contaminated watercraft, trailers or equipment.

How can people help?
- Report suspected golden mussels to the DNR.
- Carefully inspect watercraft, trailers and water equipment before leaving a water body. Remove any plants or mud and drain all water.

Further information:
www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticanimals/golden-mussel.html

JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

MOWING PATHWAY

Main photo: Minnesota Department of Transportation Inset photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

What's the problem?
Mowing is an essential tool for managing vegetation but can spread seeds or propagative plant parts to new locations if used at the wrong time. Seedheads or stems can get trapped in equipment and transported over miles, periodically dropping seeds or stems in new locations. Some plants reproduce from broken stem fragments including nonnative Phragmites (*Phragmites australis* ssp. *australis*) and knotweeds (*Polygonum* species).

How can people help?
- Avoid mowing when viable seed or propagative parts are present.
- Plan to mow during flowering periods (before seeds mature).
- Clean equipment before bringing it to a new location.
- If you must mow through a noxious weed infestation, mow that area last.
- Consult the MNDOT noxious weed guide for calendars indicating the best times to mow and avoid mowing for the species in your area. **https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/noxious-weeds.pdf**

Example species:
Amur silvergrass (*Miscanthus sacchariflorus*)

Impacts:
Amur silvergrass forms dense monocultures, crowding out native and diverse vegetation.

Status:
Amur silvergrass is commonly planted in residential areas and has been observed spreading from seed.

Regulatory classification (agency):
Amur silvergrass was added to the noxious weed list (MDA) in 2023 as a *restricted noxious weed*. Importation, transportation or sale of propagative parts is prohibited.

Further information:
- **www.dot.state.mn.us/roadsides/vegetation/integrated.html**
- **www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialplants/grasses/amursilvergrass.html**

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29 Play Clean Go WORK.CLEAN.GO. PlayCleanGo.org	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Presidents' Day	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	1

TRIBAL FISHING DECONTAMINATION PROGRAM

Fond du Lac invasive species program staff wash fishing nets.

Photo: Kelsey Taylor, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

What is it?
To prevent the transport of invasive species during the important cultural practice of fishing, the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (FDL) has implemented a comprehensive decontamination program. This program follows best management practices, including the “Clean, Drain, Dry” principles, and follows all Minnesota laws with respect to prevention and transport of aquatic invasive species.

Who does the decontamination?
The FDL invasive species program is responsible for decontaminating all boats and equipment associated with seasonal spearing and netting fishing in the spring and in the fall. The program utilizes a mobile decontamination station to accommodate equipment at different declared landings throughout the fishing seasons.

Everyone who participates in spearing and netting activities with the FDL Band is issued a permit showing they have complied with the decontamination program. This permit is presented to a conservation officer before entering another body of water.

Importance to the community
Fishing is an integral community practice by the FDL Band and other indigenous communities. It is a retained practice utilizing usufructuary rights (off-reservation rights to hunt, fish and gather) which were reaffirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court in the 1990s. Fish harvests stemming from treaty rights are for subsistence purposes that promote cultural preservation, which is shared throughout the community. Fishing for the FDL Band occurs in inland lakes throughout the 1837, 1842 and 1854 ceded territories, as well as Lake Superior.

The efforts put into invasive species prevention practices emphasize the importance of environmental stewardship to the FDL Band. The FDL Resource Management Division implements best management practices to ensure that usufructuary rights can still be practiced to maintain an important part of indigenous identity and culture, while also managing resources responsibly for seven generations into the future.

MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 / 30	24 / 31	25	26	27	28	29

CALLERY PEAR

Pyrus calleryana

Keys to ID:

- Leaves are 1½-3 inches long, round to teardrop-shaped. Leaf edges are wavy with fine teeth.
- Branches and stems can have short thorns.
- Trees bloom early, before leaf-out. Flowers are white with five petals and produce a strong, rancid odor.
- Fruits are tiny spherical pears less than ½ inch in diameter. Fruits are green to brown with pale dots.

Callery pear fruits

Photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

What is it?
Callery pear is a small, deciduous tree that grows 30-50 feet tall and 20-30 feet wide.

Impacts:
Grows rapidly to fill in gaps in open spaces and crowds out native plant species. Threatens grasslands, woodlands and wetlands. They can have weak branching structure, leading to splitting during ice and snow events.

Origin:
Native to Asia. Introduced in Maryland in the early 1900s to be used as a rootstock for domestic pear trees to reduce susceptibility to fireblight disease.

Status:
It has spread throughout the eastern, southern and midwestern states, though it has limited distribution in Minnesota. It was not widely planted in Minnesota because it was considered insufficiently cold hardy.

Where to look:
Roadsides, old fields, hedge rows, forest edges, woodland clearings. It prefers full sun and can be found in partially shaded habitat.

Regulatory classification (agency):
Specially regulated (MDA): Three-year production phase-out period, after which sale of this species will be prohibited and the species will be designated as a *restricted noxious weed* in 2026.

Means of spread:
Callery pear can cross pollinate with other pear species and develop fertile fruit. The offspring can then interbreed and produce viable seed, which is eaten by birds and dispersed. It can also spread vegetatively, sending up shoots from shallow root systems.

How can people help?
- Report plants that have not been purposefully planted.
- Plant native tree species.

Further information:
www.mda.state.mn.us/callery-pear

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Arbor Day in Minnesota	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

SIGNAL CRAYFISH

Pacifastacus leniusculus

Keys to ID:

- Signal crayfish can be 8 inches long, much larger than native crayfish.
- Blue-brown to red-brown in color.
- Underside of claws are bright red with a white or blueish patch near the claw hinge.
- Upper body shell and claws of signal crayfish are smoother than those of native crayfish.

Photo: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

What is it?
A large crayfish.

Impacts:
Signal crayfish can negatively impact aquatic food webs by overgrazing aquatic plants, displacing native crayfish, competing with fish for food and shelter and predating fish eggs. They are carriers of the crayfish plague that decimated European and Japanese native crayfish populations.

Origin:
Signal crayfish are native to the Columbia River Basin in western North America.

Status:
Signal crayfish are present in six northwestern U.S. states and Alaska, 27 European countries and Japan. In 2023, they were discovered in a lake in Douglas County, Minnesota.

Regulatory classification (agency):
Signal crayfish are an *unlisted nonnative species* (DNR) in Minnesota as of mid-2024. It is illegal to release them into the environment. A live fish import and transportation permit is required from the DNR to import live crayfish or crayfish eggs into Minnesota.

Means of spread:
Signal crayfish are harvested for food and could enter Minnesota through commerce or release. They are sold through the pet trade and to schools by biological supply houses, leading to the potential for illegal release into the wild.

How can people help?
- Do not purchase live crayfish for importation without a permit.
- Do not use live crayfish as bait unless they are legally trapped and used in the same waterbody.
- Report suspicious sightings to the DNR.

Further information:
- **www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticanimals/signal-crayfish.html**
- **www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishing/commercial/crayfish.html**

MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1 Arbor Month in MN Begins	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day	27	28	29	30	31

Keys to ID:

- Adelgids are very small and can be difficult to see.
- Feeding produces a white woolly substance on the lower trunk of the tree.
- Feeding damage causes swelling or distortion of branches. Dead branches appear deep red or brown.
- Tree crowns can become narrow, misshapen and have sparse needles.

BALSAM WOOLLY ADELGID

Adelges piceae

Deformed balsam fir branch.

Photo: Dawn Dailey O'Brien, Cornell University, Bugwood.org

What is it?
A tiny sucking insect that feeds on all species of fir.

Impacts:
Feeding can result in stem and twig injury, and possible branch and tree mortality. When the adelgid feeds, it injects a substance into the bark resulting in abnormal tree growth and causes the twigs and branches to swell or "gout."

Origin:
Native to Europe.

Status:
Balsam woolly adelgid is not known in Minnesota as of mid-2024. It is found in eastern Canada, the northeastern U.S. and the Pacific Northwest. It was found in Michigan in 2021.

Where to look:
Christmas trees, nursery stock, firewood and other tree products and anywhere fir species are present.

Regulatory classification:
No federal, state or local regulations are currently in place in Minnesota. If found in Minnesota, state regulations may be implemented.

Means of spread:
Moving infested Christmas trees, nursery stock, firewood or other tree products can result in new introductions. The insects do not move far by their own means, but long-distance spread is possible via wind, wildlife or vehicles.

How can people help?
Trees should only be purchased from reputable nurseries and Christmas tree farms. If you suspect you have found balsam woolly adelgid, contact **reportapest@state.mn.us**

Further information:
www.mda.state.mn.us/plants-insects/balsam-woolly-adelgid

JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth National Independence Day	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2 	3	4	5

EUROPEAN WATER CLOVER

Marsilea quadrifolia

Keys to ID:

- Looks similar to four leaf clover with four wedge-shaped leaflets held by hairy stalks.
- Leaves smooth, ½-1½ inch, can float, be slightly submerged or emerge above the water surface.
- Produces thick sporocarps (spore-producing tissues) on less than ½ inch oval stalks near the petiole.

Water clover leaves

Dense water clover infestation.

Photos: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

What is it?
European water clover is an herbaceous aquatic fern.

Impacts:
Forms dense stands which crowd out native plants and hinder aquatic recreation. Leaves optimize gathering sunlight to give it a competitive advantage over native species.

Origin:
Europe and Asia

Status:
In every Great Lakes state, except Wisconsin. In Minnesota, it was first found in 2023 near the Twin Cities.

Where to look:
Found along moist edges and shallow waters of ponds, ditches, lakes, streams and canals.

Regulatory classification (agency):
It is an *unlisted nonnative species* in Minnesota (DNR). Currently, it is allowable for sale and possession, but illegal to release into the environment.

Means of spread:
Spreads vegetatively by underground stems called rhizomes. Also produces structures called sporocarps which release spores that produce new plants. Sporocarps remain dormant in moist soils for decades.

How can people help?

- Report sightings to the DNR or **eddmaps.org**.
- Dispose of any unwanted aquatic plants in sealed bags in the trash.
- Remove aquatic plants from watercraft, trailers and equipment before leaving water accesses.
- Do not release or allow escape of plants from water gardens and ponds into the environment.

Further information:

- **www.michigan.gov/invasives/id-report/plants/aquatic/european-water-clover**
- **www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/responsible-consumers.html**

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

RED STAR RUST

Gymnosporangium yamadae

Keys to ID:

- Leaf spots on apple and crabapple are bright red or yellow to orange with a bright red border.
- Beige, bristle like fungal structures stick out from the lower leaf surface in late summer.
- Round woody galls, the size of a pea or smaller, can be found on young juniper branches.
- On juniper, a bright orange gelatinous mass of spores forms on galls during spring rain.

Red star rust fungal structures.

Red star rust leaf spot on a crabapple leaf.

Photos: Minnesota Department of Agriculture

What is it?
Red star rust is a fungal disease that affects apples, crabapples and some junipers.

Impacts:
Red star rust causes bright red, orange and yellow leaf spots on crabapple and apple trees. In some cultivars, infected leaves drop early, reducing tree vigor and fruit production. It is unknown how cultivars commonly grown in Minnesota will respond to red star rust.

In juniper, red star rust causes woody galls (round growths about the size of a pea or smaller) on young branches. These do not impact the health of the juniper. Since the galls are hard to see, it is easy for the disease to be moved unintentionally on infected junipers.

Origin:
Japan, China and Korea

Status:
Red star rust was found in Minnesota in 2022. It has been found in landscapes, nurseries and apple orchards.

Where to look:
Inspect apple and crabapple trees mid to late summer. Look for galls on juniper on rainy days in late spring.

Regulatory classification (agency):
Regulated in nursery plants only (MDA).

Means of spread:
Spores spread by splashing water or air currents. Infected plants can be moved through the nursery trade.

How can people help?
Report red star rust to **reportapest@state.mn.us**

Further information:
www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/plantdiseases/red-star-rust

AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30  www.mda.state.mn.us/reportapest	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

DOCK AND LIFT PATHWAY

Photo: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

What's the problem?
Docks and boat lifts provide a perfect setting for many aquatic invasive species (AIS) to spread. Because they are typically in the water all season, zebra mussels and faucet snails can attach both externally and internally on all parts of the equipment.

Dock posts sink deep into the lake bottom, making decontamination challenging and providing a cool, dark environment that can help adult zebra mussels survive longer out of water. Seeds, plant fragments and small/larval invasive species can be spread in mud stuck to foot bases.

What is being done?
Minnesota law requires that boat lifts, docks, swim rafts and associated equipment removed from any Minnesota waterbody must sit out of water for 21 days before being placed in a different waterbody.

People moving docks or lifts should carefully inspect, clean and keep the equipment out of the water for at least 21 days before installing in a new water body.

Dock and lift companies and other businesses that install, remove, decontaminate or rent water-related equipment must be trained about AIS every three years to legally provide services. These lake service provider businesses are a key partner in slowing the spread of AIS.

How can people help?
- Inspect docks and lifts for invasive species, remove all plants and dry for 21 days if moving to a new waterbody.
- Check the DNR lake service provider website (**www.mndnr.gov/lsp**) to make sure your dock installer company is permitted.
- If you work for a lake service provider business, get trained and permitted.

Further information:
www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/shoreland_owners.html

SEPTEMBER

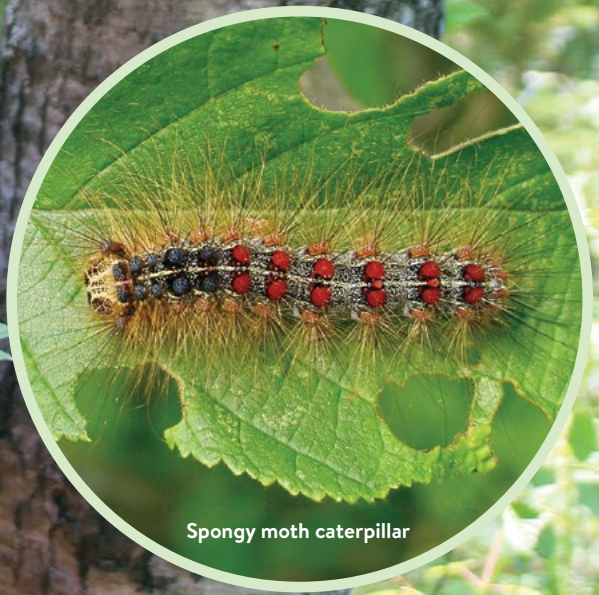
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1 	2	3	4

SPONGY MOTH

Lymantria dispar dispar

Keys to ID:

- Egg masses: Spongy-looking, buff-colored, about the size of a quarter.
- Caterpillars: Tiny and dark colored when newly emerged. As the hairy caterpillars grow larger, they have five pairs of blue spots followed by six pairs of red spots.
- Adults:
  - Distinct “comma marks” and zig-zagged markings on wings.
  - Males are brownish gray and fly during the day.
  - Females are bigger with a tan body and cream-colored wings and do not fly.



Spongy moth caterpillar

A surveyor checks a spongy moth trap.

Main photo: Minnesota Department of Agriculture Inset photo: Bill McNee, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Bugwood.org

What is it?
A moth species whose caterpillars feed on hundreds of species of deciduous trees and shrubs.

Impacts:
Caterpillars cause extensive defoliation, impacting habitat and potentially killing forest and urban trees and shrubs. Human nuisance due to rapid caterpillar growth, population increase and frass (caterpillar poop) during outbreaks. Hairs of caterpillars can cause allergies or skin irritation.

Origin:
Native to Europe; some subspecies are native to Asia. First introduced to Massachusetts in 1869.

Regulatory classification (agency):
Federally *regulated invasive species* (USDA). Minnesota's Lake and Cook counties are under state (MDA) and federal (USDA) quarantine. Much of Wisconsin and the northeastern United States is also quarantined.

Where to look:
Look for egg masses and caterpillars on any hard outdoor surface – household/recreational items, trees, crevices, sides of buildings, vehicles, campers, etc. Caterpillars congregate on tree trunks.

Means of spread:
Human assisted movement of egg masses attached to outdoor items, firewood, logs, vehicles, campers, etc.

How can people help?
- Self-inspect and remove eggs, caterpillars or moths before leaving a quarantined area. Keep firewood local.
- Don't disturb detection traps the MDA and cooperators place during annual detection trapping surveys in the summer.
- Report suspected spongy moth to **reportapest@state.mn.us**. Please take photos and note specific location.

Further information:
- **www.mda.state.mn.us/spongymoth**
- **www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-pests-diseases/spongy-moth**

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Columbus Day/ Indigenous Peoples' Day	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

RUDD

Scardinius erythrophthalmus

Keys to ID:

- Unlike native minnows, rudd have scales on the sharp ridge on their underside between their pelvic and anal fins.
- Bright reddish-orange to reddish-brown fins.
- Can grow up to 19 inches in length.

Photo: Vladimir Wrangel

What is it?
Rudd are stocky, deep-bodied minnows with brassy scales and red fins.

Impacts:
Impacts are not well-studied. Rudd can hybridize with native golden shiner creating unknown impacts on golden shiner populations and the game fish that feed on them. Rudd are expected to compete with native fish for invertebrate food sources.

Origin:
Rudd are native to western Europe and eastern Asia. They were introduced to the United States in the late 1800s.

Status:
Rudd have been introduced to 23 states and the Canadian province of Ontario. As of mid-2024, they have not been reported in Minnesota but have been found nearby, including in the Big Sioux River in South Dakota, near southwestern Minnesota.

Where to look:
Look for rudd in shallow areas of rivers and lakes.

Regulatory classification (agency):
Rudd are a *prohibited invasive species* in Minnesota (DNR).

Means of spread:
Rudd are primarily spread through bait bucket transfers, either accidentally or intentionally.

How can people help?
- Learn to identify rudd and report sightings at **eddmaps.org** or to the DNR.
- Do not release baitfish, which may accidentally include invasive fish and diseases.
- Throw away unwanted bait in the trash.

Further information:
www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticanimals/rudd.html

NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving	28	29

FERAL PIGS

Sus scrofa

Keys to ID:

Report any pig outside of containment. Eurasian wild boar, domestic pigs that have been living in the wild, and their hybrids can look very similar.

A feral pig in Florida.

Photo: Danita Delimont

What is it?
Feral pigs are domestic pigs (*Sus scrofa domesticus*), Eurasian wild boar (*Sus scrofa scrofa*) and their hybrids that are not in captivity (living wild).

Impacts:
- Dig up vegetation, damaging crops and native habitats.
- Eat native species including reptiles, small mammals, amphibians and ground nesting birds.
- Carry diseases that can spread to humans and animals.

Origin:
Eurasian wild boar are native to Europe and Asia. Domestic pigs were domesticated from Eurasian wild boar.

Status:
As of mid-2024, feral pigs are found in the southern United States, with scattered populations farther north. There are also populations in Canada, including in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Regulatory classification (agency):
All pigs must be kept in captivity, regardless of species or subspecies. Eurasian wild boar are a *prohibited invasive species* (DNR), meaning it is unlawful to possess them except with a permit for educational or research purposes.

Means of spread:
- Domestic pigs can escape containment and survive in the wild.
- Purposeful illegal transport and release of any pigs.

How can people help?
- Report any pigs you see outside of a fence or containment area to local law enforcement and the DNR.
- Do not attempt to kill or remove the pigs yourself. Pigs will become more cautious and difficult to catch/kill which can lead to reproduction and more pigs. Professionals have the tools and training to collect an entire sounder (group) of pigs at once.

Further information:
www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialanimals/eurasianswine.html

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3












For more information about invasive species in Minnesota

Aquatic Plants and Animals
Minnesota Department
of Natural Resources
Invasive Species Program
651-296-6157

Terrestrial Plants and Insects
Minnesota Department
of Agriculture
Invasive Species Program
888-545-6684

MISAC
Minnesota Invasive Species Advisory Council