



Meeting the Challenges of Invasive Non-native Plants

A Symposium Sponsored by:

The Georgia Exotic Pest Plant Council

November 5, 2009

The State Botanical Garden of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

The **2009 Georgia Exotic Pest Plant Council (GA-EPPC)** Annual Meeting will be held at The State Botanical Garden of Georgia in Athens on November 5th. The theme of this year's meeting is "**Meeting the Challenges of Invasive Non-native Plants**". The day will be filled with informative presentations from speakers that are authorities in their subject matter. There will also be opportunities to share ideas and network with others involved in management of non-native invasive species.

Professionals involved with Forest and Natural Resources, Land Management, Vegetation Management, Green Industry, Agriculture, and related professions, as well as land owners and other individuals concerned about non-native invasive species and natural areas, are encouraged to attend.

Agenda

- 8:00 **Registration**
- 9:00 **Welcome, GA-EPPC Board**
- 9:10 *Keynote Address*
Heroic Group and Individual Efforts are Finally Making a Difference
Dr. James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station, Auburn Univ. School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences
- 10:00 ***Georgia's Invasive Species Incentive Program – Economic Stimulus Funding***
James Johnson, Georgia Forestry Commission
- 10:50 **Break**
- 11:00 ***Using Farm Equipment to Kill Kudzu***
Newt Hardie, Kudzu Coalition

- 11:50 **GA-EPPC Election of Officers**
- 12:00 **Lunch** (included with registration)
- 1:00 ***Non-native Invasive Species and the Challenge of Landscape Design***
Steve Sanchez, Hughes, Good, O’Leary and Ryan
- 1:50 ***Georgia Invasives – implementing volunteer mapping using EDDMapS in Georgia***
Chuck Bargeron, UGA Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health
- 2:40 **Break**
- 2:50 ***Engaging Volunteers in Fighting Invasives***
Newt Hardie, Kudzu Coalition
- 3:40 ***Utilizing Volunteers for Invasive Plant Projects - A Panel Discussion***
See panel participants below
- 4:20 **Closing remarks, evaluation, pesticide credits**
- 4:30 **Adjourn**

Credits Available: 5 hours of Georgia Pesticide Credits (Cat. 21, 23, 24 and 27), 3 hours of CFE Credits (Cat1-CF), 1.5 hours South Carolina Pesticide Credits, 5.5 hours Certified Arborist CEU’s, & 5.5 hours Municipal Specialist CEU’s

About the Speakers:

James (Jim) Miller is a Research Ecologist with the U.S. Forest Service, Southern Research Station, on the Auburn University Campus *and* is an Affiliate Professor of Forestry with Auburn University’s School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences. Jim has Southern Regional responsibility for invasive plant research and development within the Forest Service. He currently leads a Regional Task Force including all branches of the Forest Service to identify the alien invasive species that most threaten southern forest sustainability.

Newt Hardie has led the Kudzu Coalition, an organization based in Spartanburg, S.C. that has pioneered innovative, non-herbicidal means of kudzu and other non-native species control, with a volunteer work force. The Coalition is also gaining knowledge for its “Kudzu College” program, in which attendees are taught principals of the Kudzu Coalitions work.

Steve Sanchez is a Landscape Architect with Hughes, Good, O’Leary and Ryan. He has gained recognition from both in and outside the Green Industry for his vision and practice of using non-invasive plant material on projects in which he is involved.

Chuck Barger is Technology Coordinator at the University of Georgia Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health. He has led the effort of the Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System (EDDMapS), which provides distribution information of non-native invasive species and serves as an important tool in nonnative invasive species management. Chuck is also President of the Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council, SE-EPPC.

James Johnson is Forest Health Coordinator for the Georgia Forestry Commission. He leads the Commissions invasive plant management programs and has been instrumental in the Commissions Cogongrass management program. He is involved with management of the Federal Stimulus Programs related Cost Share Incentives available on private and state lands.

Panelists:

Danielle Green, Curator of Horticulture and Environmental Initiatives for Zoo Atlanta;
Cynthia Taylor, Natural Resource Manager for Elachee Nature Science Center, Gainesville, GA

Newt Hardie, the Kudzu Coalition, Spartanburg, S.C.

Ayanna Williams, Park Pride

Blake Watkins, Trees Atlanta

Dave Butler, Dekalb County Parks Department

Registration fee

Members of GA-EPPC”: \$25 (received by October 23) / \$35 (received after October 23)

Non-members: \$45 (received by October 23) / \$55 (received after October 23)

(Non-member fee includes one year annual membership)

For a printable registration form, click here.

To register on line, click here

For directions to the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, see

<http://www.uga.edu/botgarden/directions.html>

Questions? Phone: 706/542-0808