



What is *Phragmites*?

Phragmites australis is a non-native grass that has invaded many wetlands across the United States.

Phragmites...



Outcompetes native wetland plants



Reduces available habitat of native fish and wildlife species



Costs millions of dollars per year to manage in the U.S.

With your help, we can reduce the spread of invasive *Phragmites* and reverse its impacts!



Learn More!

Visit our website for more information and resources:

www.greatlakesphragmites.net

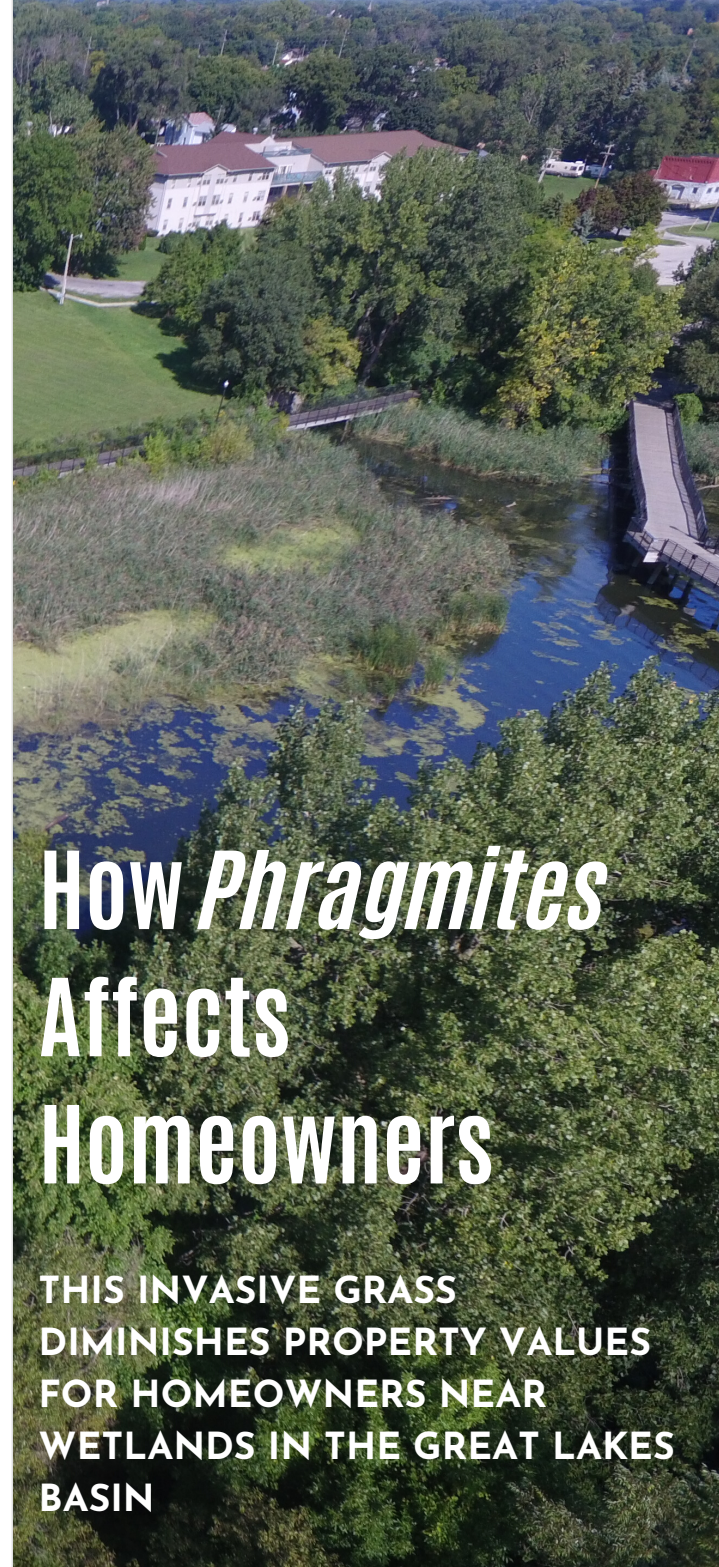
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How *Phragmites* Affects Homeowners

THIS INVASIVE GRASS DIMINISHES PROPERTY VALUES FOR HOMEOWNERS NEAR WETLANDS IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN



What does *Phragmites* look like?



**Purplish seed head
in summer**



**Fluffy tan seed head
in fall**



**Typically grows in
dense patches**



Dull green stems

Photo courtesy of Janice Gilbert, Invasive Phragmites Control Centre



Can grow up to 20 feet tall each summer!

How does *Phragmites* affect homeowners?

Wild areas are not the only places affected by invasive species. Many homeowners maintain gardens, lawns, and even ponds on their properties. When an invasive plant like *Phragmites* moves in, it can make landscape management a daunting task.

***Phragmites* can grow and spread quickly, causing:**

- Reduced sightlines of roads, ponds, or other natural areas
- Decreased property values
- Disruption of septic systems
- Increased management expenses
- Clogged drainage ditches, which can cause increased flooding
- Restricted access to utilities and fire hydrants
- Fire hazards
- Damage to landscaping
- Reduced wildlife habitat

The average house with
Phragmites on its property is

\$3750

lower in value than a house with
Phragmites 1000 meters away

*based on a 2017 study conducted in Ottawa County, MI



Dry *Phragmites* burns very hot
and fast, posing a risk to
surrounding residential and
commercial properties

What YOU can do to "phight" *Phragmites*

Do you live in a neighborhood with a
homeowners' or lake association? Let
them know your concerns about
Phragmites in your area.

Do you have a stand of *Phragmites* on your
private property? Check out resources for
how you can manage *Phragmites* at
www.greatlakesphragmites.net.

Photo courtesy of Sue Tangora, Michigan DNR