

Phragmites Management

Phragmites trimmer available for community groups

Phragmites

Phragmites australis (pronounced frag-my-tees), also known as European Common Reed is one of Ontario's worst invasive species. This tall perennial grass can be found along road side ditches, river banks and shorelines. Once established in a location, *Phragmites* is extremely difficult to control due to its extensive root systems and proximity to water. *Phragmites* infestations can result in loss of wildlife habitat and biodiversity, and can also threaten property values and recreational opportunities.

Trimmers available for community groups!

The Beaver River Watershed Initiative has generously provided two long reach hedge trimmers to enable volunteers groups to manage *Phragmites*. The units are housed at Grey Sauble Conservation Authority and are available for a maximum of three days at a time per group, free of charge. Grey Sauble Conservation staff will work with these groups to provide safety training and preparation leading up to cutting events. Since there are no herbicides approved for over water use, cutting *Phragmites* annually using these trimmers is one of the most effective methods for control. The optimal time to cut *Phragmites* is between late July and early August as the plant is putting all its energy into seed production.

How can I get involved and sign out the trimmer?

To learn more about hosting a *Phragmites* cutting event with your group or to learn more about how you can be involved in this watershed-wide effort, please visit our website for more information: www1.greysauble.on.ca or contact our Stewardship Technician at:

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Special thank you to our partner, the Beaver River Watershed Initiative.



Photo of David Sweetnam by NVCA

