

**Town Board Meeting**  
**June 2, 2016**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Supervisor Lanning, Councilor Brace, Councilor Howard, Councilor Badami, \*Councilor Coville, Attorney Smith.

**Also Present:** Randy Nonemacher, Matt Champlin, Nathan Carlton, Denise Rhoads, Aubreah Lynn, Chloe Strang, Sue Murphy, Gene LaForte, Allan Wellington, Courtney Alexander, Jonathan Monfiletto (Skaneateles Journal), Jason Gabak (Skaneateles Press), Gustav Niebler, Holly Gregg, Rob Howard.

**Department Reports**

▪*Highway, Water, Transfer Station:* Allan Wellington said in the Highway Department they have been mowing the sides of the roads, excavating ditches, doing equipment repairs. Allan attended an Emergency Management Certification Course. In the Water Department they installed a new water main on Britcher Road and repaired a water main on Railroad Street. At the Transfer Station they excavated the ditch along the main road of the facility, DeMarco Landscaping finished hauling all the old mulch and Clifton Recycling is scheduled to grind the brush pile next week.

▪*Parks:* Sue Murphy said that swim tags are in. PlayDay registrations are coming in. The parks are being mowed and maintained. She said that with the Austin Pavilion renovations, her office location is moving to the kitchen area of the pavilion. She said that the internet will not be available during renovations and she will not have access to email and notified the Board that communication would have to be by cell phone.

▪*Planning, Zoning, Codes:* Councilor Badami reported that the Codes Department issued 26 permits which included 12 mobile home permit renewals and that there were six open projects with the Planning and Zoning Board.

▪*Budget:* Bridgett Winkelman reported that she billed Water #1, completed her filing with NYS Retirement and was working on paperwork with the summer employees.

**Public Comment**

*Holly Gregg:* Said that the Board will be discussing amending the abandonment local law to include projects that are currently before the Planning Board. He said he believes it is legally defensible even if the project is in the review stage. Back in the 1990's the Town Board made zoning changes in the middle of reviewing a shopping center proposal that Allan Storch was proposing on the east side of the town. He said the developer should be required to give regular reports to keep the community up to date and he doesn't believe this would be onerous.

*Resolution #16-137*

**Household Hazardous Waste Bids:** Janet Aaron reported that two bids were received for the budgeted hazardous waste collection event that is planned for this fall. The bidders were given three Saturday dates to hold the event. Two bids were received. The bidders were given a scenario that 300 vehicles would bring hazardous waste. The first bid was from Environmental Products & Services of Vermont, Inc. was for \$16,500. They could do the event on all three dates. The second bid from MXI Environmental Services in the amount of \$10,760 could only do the event on September 24, 2016. She said that MXI did the event in 2013 that went very well. Allan Wellington agreed that MXI was a very professional company to work with.

The Town Attorney said that the formal bid met all the requirements of the Town's procurement policy and advised the Town Board that if they chose not to take low bid they would have to state an acceptable reason.

Councilor Badami made a motion seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, to award the Household Hazardous Collection Day Event to MXI Environmental Services in the amount of \$10,760 and to hold the event on September 24, 2016.

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Councilor Howard   | Yes    |
| Councilor Brace    | Yes    |
| Councilor Badami   | Yes    |
| Councilor Coville  | Absent |
| Supervisor Lanning | Yes    |

Carried 4-0

\*Councilor Coville arrived

**Introductory Local Law 2016-B- A Local Law Amending the Town Code of the Town of Skaneateles to Set the Cost per Acre Amount for the Development Rights Acquisition Fund;**

Attorney Smith said that the purpose of Section 148-12 (G)(6) is to provide property owners with the option to make a monetary contribution, equal to the cost to protect 10 square feet of land with a conservation easement for each square foot of impermeable surface coverage greater than the area permitted to bring the lot into compliance with applicable coverage limitations for conforming lots, to the Town Land and Development Rights Acquisition (DRA) Fund. The DRA Fund was established to acquire development rights or conservation easements on undeveloped land to promote permanent protection of the lake and other natural resources. The Town Planning Board has recommended that the DRA Fund law be amended to clarify the process by which the cost per acre amount is determined and in order to update the illustrative examples found in the code to better reflect current conditions. He said that the rate was previously \$.23 to \$1.09 per square foot. The example in the Local Law uses the \$1.09 per square foot price. The Town Board previously changed the amount by resolution and feels that the purpose of the local law was to remove the amount in the local law so that in the future it could be changed by resolution.

The Board held a lengthy discussion regarding the example stating that it would be better not to use a number so that it would be confusing when the rate changes. The Board agreed that instead it should be put into a mathematic formula.

Supervisor Lanning noted the affidavit of posting dated May 20, 2016 and the affidavit of publication dated May 25, 2016. With no one requesting to have the notice read Councilor Badami made a motion, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the public hearing was opened.

Holly Gregg questioned how much was in the fund and how much the new amount will generate.

Karen Barkdull said the amount in the fund was \$90,000. Supervisor Lanning said it would be hard to judge how much more it would generate.

Karen Barkdull explained that prior to 2005 there was no option under the zoning code on lake lots when property owners could never get to the 10% impermeable surface. Homeowners improving their homes could not do it without a variance. Between 2005 and 2007, 20 variances were granted.

Rob Howard questioned what the Town Board will do with the DRA Fund money.

Supervisor Lanning said that the Open Space Committee will make recommendations to the Town Board on properties to preserve.

Councilor Howard said there is a section in the Open Space Plan that addresses prioritization.

*Resolution #16-138*

On a motion of Councilor Badami, seconded by Councilor Brace and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the public hearing was closed.

The Town Board requested that the language in the example be changed to reflect a mathematical formula. Attorney Smith said he would draft the changes and present it at the next meeting on June 16, 2016.

**Conservation Area Invasive Species:** Nathan Carlton, consulting Ecologist submitted a power point presentation on the different options for Phragmites removal (presentation attached). Mr. Carlton outlined the difficulties removing the colonies of Phragmites because of how easy it spreads. He outlined the products that are used for chemical removal and the management and restoration phases. He said that elimination can be costly, but management is forever. NYS lists Phragmites the top 5 most invasive. He said Phragmites will consume the area.

Supervisor Lanning said left untouched it will take over the valley at Gully Road.

Councilor Howard said she is concerned that Phragmites is taking over but is also concerned about the use of the chemical Glyphosate because it has the potential to be hazardous.

Councilor Brace questioned the chemical Imazamox. Mr. Carlton said that this chemical came out last year and has the lowest toxicity ratings of all chemicals. It is effective and a slow worker. It interrupts the growth centers of the plant preventing the plant from producing reserve in the rhizome system.

Mr. Carlton said that Glyphosate has been around for about 40 years and is the most researched pesticide. It is the most benign in terms of environmental and human health. It is the most used. The World Health Organization did testing and found that it was not carcinogenic contrary to other health impacts such as Roundup and over the counter pesticides. Glyphosates is only available for commercial use.

Supervisor Lanning said that this was not budgeted to do this year. The Board thanked Mr. Carlton for the very informative presentation.

*Resolution #16-139*

**Minutes:** On a motion of Councilor Howard, seconded by Councilor Coville and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the minutes of May 19, 2016 were accepted as presented.

**Abandonment Law Discussion:** Councilor Howard said that the condition to approving the abandonment local law was that the Board would revisit it to discuss including existing applications.

Supervisor Lanning said there has been discussion about making the law retroactive to existing applications. Councilor Brace said that she was not in favor of going retroactive but having existing applications under the same law that was recently passed by the Town Board giving them the same six and 12 month period as new applications are required to do from the effective date of the local law.

Town Attorney Brody Smith said such an amendment is within the board's power, but applications would still have to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine whether they have established a vested right to keep the application open, such as starting actual construction on the project. The Town Board has the ability to apply it to existing applications. He said that each case depends how far along they are in the approval process. The more work they have done on the site the more likely they have a vested right.

Councilor Howard said she did not see the difference between existing applications and new applications if both are inactive for the time period approved in the local law both would receive letters from the Planning or Zoning Board and they would have to submit a letter to update the Boards on what they are doing. Projects that are under construction should be excluded. She does not see where this would be dangerous for the Board to consider.

Councilor Howard said she wanted to speak to the needs of the community. She understands that the Town doesn't like lawsuits but said the Town Board is here to protect and serve the community. She said thinking about neighbors who share a boundary with some of these applicants. It is hard for neighbors to make plans with their property and it hampers the towns planning abilities. She does not believe it is a fair situation to allow applicants not to abide by the rules that apply to everyone else.

Supervisor Lanning said he agrees. He said it was unfortunate previous Town Board's did not pass this legislation. That is why he put it on the forefront of his agenda. As the Chief Fiscal Officer he said he has to be responsible for any pending litigation. He said Victory Sports has been mentioned in writing and meetings and if this law is seen as targeting Victory Sports, then the Town has a better potential for a lawsuit. Now the line has been drawn in the sand and the safest way to move forward is to have it apply to new applications. This law did was not in place when the existing application were submitted and the Town would be changing the process in mid-stream. He said the Constitution said we shall post no ex post facto laws and that is what he feels this does.

Councilor Howard said she would like to see language drafted that would be inclusive of current applications. Supervisor Lanning said a motion was not needed, just a request of the attorney.

Councilor Badami said he is concerned about the neighbors to projects and he is very mindful of being in that situation. He feels the Town owes some type of duty to the neighbors because a project may impact their value or the ability to sell or not sell their house. He said it comes down to fair notice. He believes there is a problem when projects sit open ended for a long time and is not fair to adjoining property owners. He said there is an expectation when you file any type of application that the laws in place will apply. He said there should be a balance. If there is a retroactive application to this law that gives fairness and reasonableness a weighted balance is the proper way to go because there will be two competing interests at stake. He wants to give certainty to property owners that they can sell their house at the value they expect and at the same time give fair notice to applications that are pending. He believes there is a reasonable factor that can be added that would work for all parties involved.

Councilor Coville said he agrees with Councilor Badami. If there is no activity on applications for a certain period then the application should be shut down and they will have to reapply. He said that period of time should be long enough and effective enough that you are not taking away someone's property rights.

Attorney Smith said that there could be alternate dates. He will consult with Counselors Howard and Brace on the different versions. Attorney Smith will provide the draft language at the next meeting.

**Contracts:** Supervisor Lanning said that the Board is in receipt of contracts with Joel Russell and Howard Brodsky. We have a redline version of the draft updated Comprehensive Plan that is on the Town website for public review. These contracts will deal with the zoning review.

Howard Brodsky is looking at probable zoning revisions that will come out of the draft Plan. While Joel Russell is working on the Comprehensive Plan, he will be working on an analysis of the existing Code simultaneously and parallel to what Joel is doing. The third part of their coordinated review will be to look at issues or topics that the Town may wish to pursue, independent of the Plan and his zoning analysis. For example, solar arrays. Howard Brodsky speaking to the Board said his contract consists of 5 project tasks: Zoning text review, Code organization and section review, Case review, Zone district and mapping, Planning Board and Zoning Board input, Summary report.

Supervisor Lanning said that Howard Brodsky's contract is for 75-100 hours at \$75/hour with anticipated total costs of \$5,000-\$7500. Joel Russell's contract is for \$200/hour not to exceed \$12,000.

Bridgett Winkelman stated that funding was available in the budget.

Councilor Howard asked about a point person so that the entire Town Board can stay in the loop and that everyone is copied on all communication.

Supervisor Lanning said he does not want this to be political and will certainly copy all correspondence he receives.

Councilor Brace quoted Joel Russell "I cannot do this work until the revised Comprehensive Plan has been adopted or at least been reviewed substantively by the public and the Town Board". She said we should be moving forward with a public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan resolve Article 78 with the litigants because the lawsuit does not identify zoning as an issue. She said that we want to resolve the lawsuit with the Comprehensive Plan over the summer but it becomes harder because people are not available and Joel Russell is in Europe for three weeks. She suggested moving the Comprehensive Plan public hearing forward and see if the language can be resolved with the litigants and get that off the table.

Attorney Smith said that the return date has been extended to August 24, 2016 by the court. He shared the redline version of the Comprehensive Plan with opposing counsel today and asked him to share with his clients. He is trying to get a written commitment from everyone. Attorney Smith is optimistic that it could result in a settlement. He said it is within the power of the Town Board to schedule a public hearing. The other step, which could be done on a parallel track, is to receive a written commitment from the litigants that if the Town goes through this process that it will discontinue the lawsuit.

Councilor Brace said she agrees with Councilor Howard that there should be openness to the Board and recommended accepting the proposals and moving forward with the public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan.

Councilor Howard said we can best serve the public by resolving the Article 78.

*Resolution #16-140*

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the proposal submitted by Howard Brodsky for 75-100 hours of work as outlined above at a rate of \$75/hour with anticipated costs of \$5,000-\$7,500 was approved.

*Resolution #16-141*

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the proposal submitted by Joel Russell to:

1. Coordinate with, review, and comment on the work of Howard Brodsky analyzing the existing zoning and any problems he finds with it, along with his recommended changes.
2. Recommending changes to the zoning based upon changes adopted for the Comprehensive Plan.
3. Developing new zoning language, in cooperation with Howard Brodsky's where appropriate, for issues that have been raised since the last zoning amendments were made, as directed by the Town Board.

At a billing rate of \$200 per hour plus travel expenses and not to exceed \$12,000.

**Announcements/Correspondence/Updates**

▪*Letter to Parks Department – Jan Shadle- Skaneateles Garden Club:* Councilor Brace read the letter to the Parks Department thanking Sue and Gene for the professional and loving care they have given to the newly planted crab apple trees.

▪*ReBike – June 4<sup>th</sup> 9-1 p.m. at the Austin Park Pavilion*

▪*Austin Pavilion Renovation Update:* Attorney Smith said that the contractor's insurance certificate was received today, the contract has been signed, the purchase orders have been

sent out to all subs for materials, and that there will be a meeting tomorrow with the Clerk of the Works. Demolition will start Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.

Attorney Smith also reported regarding the transfer of ownership of Austin Park that he has had positive conversations with the Attorney General's Office concerning the cy pres action which is the last step after getting through the first steps with the Legislature. Attorney Smith is very optimistic. He has a draft petition and thanked the Village Clerk for providing the information needed for that petition. With the Town Board's permission, he is ready to share the draft petition with the Village, who ultimately has to sign off on this as well, to complete the cy pres portion to move forward. The Town Board agreed.

*Alienation:* Attorney Smith said that the Supervisor has had conversations with our State Senator and Assemblyman. The necessary forms have been signed by the Town and Village and it is in the process with the State Legislature. Supervisor Lanning said the session is scheduled to be over June 16<sup>th</sup> and they believe it will go through between now and then.

*SubContractor Austin Pavilion Renovations:* Attorney Smith reported that he and Councilor Brace opened the subcontractor envelope at the beginning of the meeting as part of the rules governing bids there are certain categories that must be listed. Two of those categories are electrical and HVAC. Because the building has electric heat and in order to comply with General Municipal Law the sub-contractor that was provided with the winning bid has to be announced which is Bruce Electric, 22 Corporate Circle, E. Syracuse, NY.

Supervisor Lanning said that the Town is petitioning the NYS Legislature for funding of the Austin Pavilion renovations.

*Resolution #16-142*

**Budget Amendments/Adjustments:** On a motion of Councilor Howard, seconded by Councilor Badami and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the following budget amendments were approved:

General Fund

|  |          |                  |                                     |
|--|----------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| \$ 950.00  | Increase | 000909.14.000.00 | Unreserved Fund Balance             |
| \$950.00   | Decrease | 019904.01.004.00 | Contingency – GF                    |
| Correction Budget Amendments - #16-11 – for records management amendment |          |                  |                                     |
| \$ 950.00  | Increase | 070202.01.002.00 | Recreation - Equipment              |
| \$ 950.00  | Decrease | 016802.01.002.00 | Central Data Processing - Equipment |
| Costs for new desk top for Recreation Administration                     |          |                  |                                     |
| \$ 50.00   | Increase | 085101.01.001.00 | Community Beautification – P/S      |
| \$ 2,950.00  | Increase | 085102.01.002.00 | Community Beautification – Equip.   |
| \$ 3,000.00  | Decrease | 085104.01.004.00 | Community Beautification – C/E      |
| Maintenance of trails / brush hog Conservation area                      |          |                  |                                     |

Water Consolidated

|                                 |          |                  |                          |
|---------------------------------|----------|------------------|--------------------------|
| \$ 585.00                       | Increase | 083104.08.004.59 | Water Admin – C/E – Eng. |
| \$ 585.00                       | Decrease | 083104.08.004.00 | Water Admin – C/E        |
| C & S Town review of water line |          |                  |                          |

*Resolution #16-143*

**Abstract #15-9:** On a motion of Councilor Coville, seconded by Councilor Brace and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, voucher #16-0676 to #16-0727 from the following funds:

|               |             |           |            |
|---------------|-------------|-----------|------------|
| General Fund: | \$78,223.74 | Highway:  | \$ 74.99   |
| Highway P/T:  | \$ 181.79   | Lighting: | \$1,317.52 |
| Water:        | \$ 5,886.87 | T & A:    | \$ 600.00  |

Total: \$86,284.91

**Public Comments:**

*Comprehensive Plan:* Councilor Brace asked if a public hearing or a public information meeting could be scheduled on the Comprehensive Plan at next meeting. Attorney Smith said that the Town Board would need to formally refer the Plan to the Village Board, the Town & Village Planning & Zoning Boards and SOCPA.

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Clerk was directed to refer the Comprehensive Plan to the Town Planning & Zoning Boards, the Village Board, the Village Planning and Zoning Boards and to SOCPA and to ask for comments within 30 days.

Supervisor Lanning said that the rush to pass the comprehensive Plan has a lot to do with why the Town ended up with a lawsuit. He said he would rather approve the Comprehensive Plan and the Zoning changes at the same time as it was done in 1996 and 2005 to keep a consistent practice.

Councilor Brace said that there are very broad elements in the zoning that take a long time to implement. She said we have the litigants that we have to respond to.

Supervisor Lanning said that the litigants will make the decision on whether the zoning changes are adequate and they will be the ones to decide whether they are going to withdraw their lawsuit. The Town can't decide that the zoning code is not part of their lawsuit.

Councilor Brace said this is not just about the litigants, it is about the entire town.

Councilor Howard asked for the attorney's opinion according to the Article 78, is the Town responsible for changing zoning and then having that approved by the litigants before they will settle the Article 78?

Attorney Smith said that the lawsuit alleges problems with the SEQR procedures connected with the Comprehensive Plan. He said it is in negotiation and could be settled in many different ways. He will bring this conversation up with the opposing counsel and try to give the Town Board feedback so that you will know what their point of view is. He personally has not had that conversation with their counsel about zoning but that doesn't mean that the litigants don't want that conversation to happen.

Councilor Howard said it is news to her that zoning is on the table.

Supervisor Lanning said it is not for the town to decide. Councilor Brace said zoning is for the entire town to decide. The litigants don't decide the zoning.

Councilor Howard said that it is her understanding that the reason we are pushing forward is that we have a Judge who initially said no to an extension. She said we don't have a Judge who will continually give us extensions on settling this lawsuit. That is her reason for agreeing for pushing the comp plan Article 78 issue forward to satisfy the time frame the Judge has directed.

Councilor Smith said that his expectation is that if the other side agrees to the settlement in principle the Town will get time to finish the administrative process. He does not know if the litigants will ask for zoning changes or not.

Councilor Brace asked if they are going to ask for zoning changes, what are they?

Councilor Smith said that because we are discussing the settlement strategy it is pretty much all he wants to say on the subject.

*Randy Nonemacher, Chair of Conservation Committee:* Randy asked when the Town Board will be making their decision on planning for treating invasive species at the Conservation Areas. He believes the only way is through tried and true methods which is the use of chemicals.

Councilor Lanning said the funding for it is not in this year's budget. The Town Board needs a proposal to see what the cost will be.

Attorney Smith also stated that SEQR would have to be done and suggested that Mr. Nonemacher complete Part I of the EAF. He offered his guidance to this process.

*Interruptions:* Supervisor Lanning said that a public meeting requires a civil decorum. Everyone should be allowed to express their opinions freely and without interruption. There are two public comment periods and people are very polite addressing their comments to the Board. They don't talk back and forth over each other. It is very important that when a Board member is speaking they not be interrupted or spoken over and he hopes that behavior does not continue. Councilor Brace apologized for previously interrupting him.

*Courtney Alexander:* Courtney Alexander asked if the committee meetings will be reconvened now that the project is moving forward. She said the nursery school has had discussions on different things they may need. They are looking at any fundraisers they may need to do prior to moving in. She knows the attorneys are looking at the lease agreement.

Supervisor Lanning suggested having the meetings at 4 p.m. on Monday's as called.

Sue Murphy said that the Town Board never approved members to the committee. The Board decided to add this to the June 16<sup>th</sup> agenda.

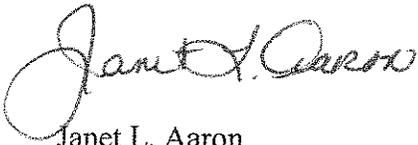
*Additional discussion on Invasive Specie Removal:* Additional discussions were held regarding the use of chemicals to control the Phragmites at the Conservation Area and specifically the use of Glyphosate. Glyphosate is a commercial application. Many studies on this subject have been inconclusive.

*Resolution #16-144*

**Executive Session:** On a motion of Councilor Badami, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. to discuss Potential Litigation and Personnel.

Meeting returned to open session and immediately adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet L. Aaron". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Janet L. Aaron  
Town Clerk

# Field Management Strategies and Techniques:

*Common Reed*

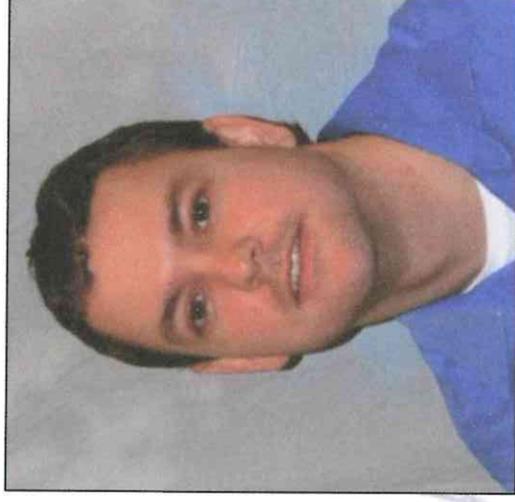
*(Phragmites australis)*



# Nathan Carlton

*Restoration Ecologist*

*Syracuse, NY*



- SUNY ESF: B.S.  
Environmental Biology
- Eight yrs in Envi. Consulting
- Ecological Restoration
- Plant Ecology

# Common Reed

*Phragmites australis*

## Characteristics:

- Herbaceous perennial grass, 3'-18'+ tall
- National Wetland Indicator Status: FACW (usually occurs in wetlands but occasionally found in non-wetlands)
- Extensive underground system of rhizomes up to 6' deep
- Flowers July-September
- Clonal species spread via vegetative parts
- Colonies expand rapidly via rhizomes and stolons
- Tolerates: Salinity, Acidic & Alkaline soils, Drought, and is capable of emerging from up to 6' of water

# Management Strategies & Techniques

## *Phragmites australis*

- Excavation & Grubbing
- Cut & Flood
- Mechanical
  - Disc & Freeze
  - Crush/Compaction
- Hand Pulling
- Chemical Treatment



# The Role of Herbicides in Invasive Species Control

## Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

### Regulations

- Registration and Restrictions at Federal & State levels
- New York State Licensed Retailer
- New York State Licensed Business
- New York State Licensed Applicator

### Toxicology

- LD50
- Lawn care, Golf Courses, Agriculture

### Use in Natural Areas

- US Forestry Service
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- The Nature Conservancy

# Chemical Treatment

## Products:

- Glyphosate (aquatic approved): Rodeo, Aqua Neat, Accord
  - Non-selective
  - Systemic: translocates to roots & rhizomes
- Imazamox (aquatic approved): ClearCast
  - Systemic: translocates to points of growth and stops growth
- Surfactants & Adjuvants:
  - Appropriate for aquatic use
  - Methylated Seed Oils: can increase uptake when plants are stressed
- Tracker Dye

# Chemical Treatment

## Methods of Foliar Application:

### Broadcast

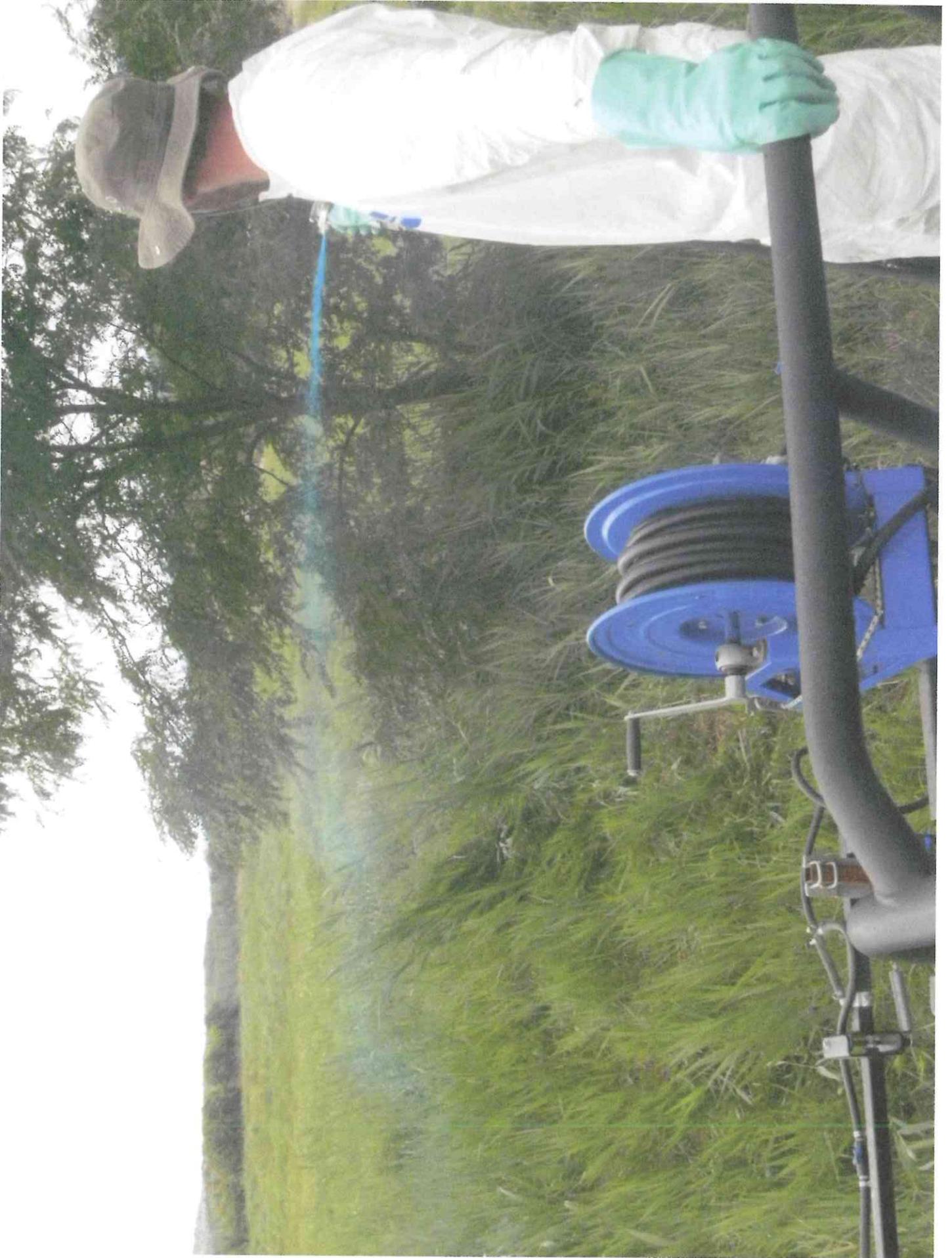
- Sprayer Boom
- Spray Gun
- Backpack Sprayers

### Wick/Wiper

- Sponge bar
- Glove



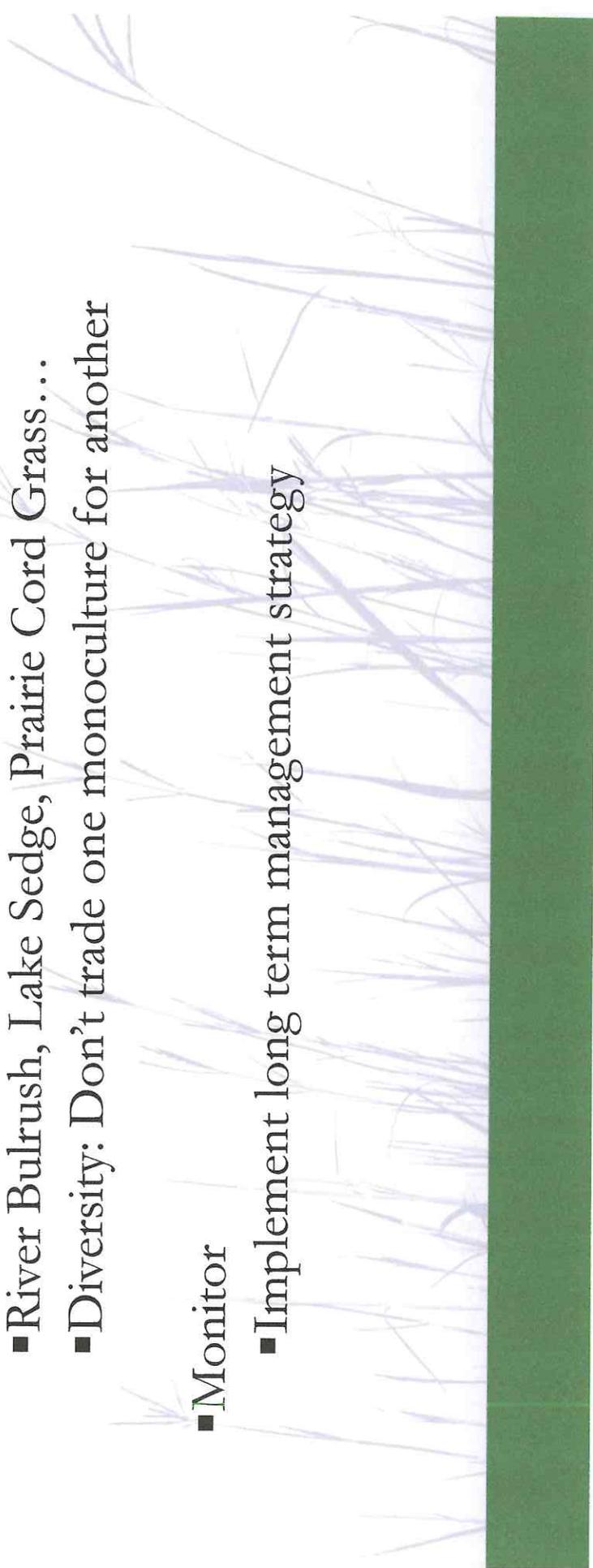




# Restoration

## Native Plant Competition:

- Rely on seed bank for reestablishment? Site Dependent.
- If planting, choose site appropriate seed, plants, and trees
  - Native, usually wetland, competitive species
  - River Bulrush, Lake Sedge, Prairie Cord Grass...
  - Diversity: Don't trade one monoculture for another
- Monitor
  - Implement long term management strategy



# Management Timeline

## Control Phase – Yrs 1-3

- Break monotypic dominance
- Typically broadcast applications 1-2x per year
- First 2-3 years

## Restoration Phase – Yrs 3-5

- Begin re-vegetation with hardy natives
- Herbicide spot treatments with backpacks or wick/wipe
- 1-2 years (transitioning to volunteer efforts)

## Monitoring Phase – Yrs 5-10

- Annual site investigations for presence/absence
- Low level control efforts when required
- Spot treat or hand pull
- ~5 years

## What Should We Expect?

- Control & Management is a campaign (3-5yrs avg.)
- Diligence is the key to success
  - $1+1=3$  (i.e. Mediocre effort = Mediocre results = Extraordinary Costs)
- Some level of restoration is usually required
- Monitoring to ensure no residual plants remain or outside reintroductions occur

**Summary:** Do it right or don't bother.

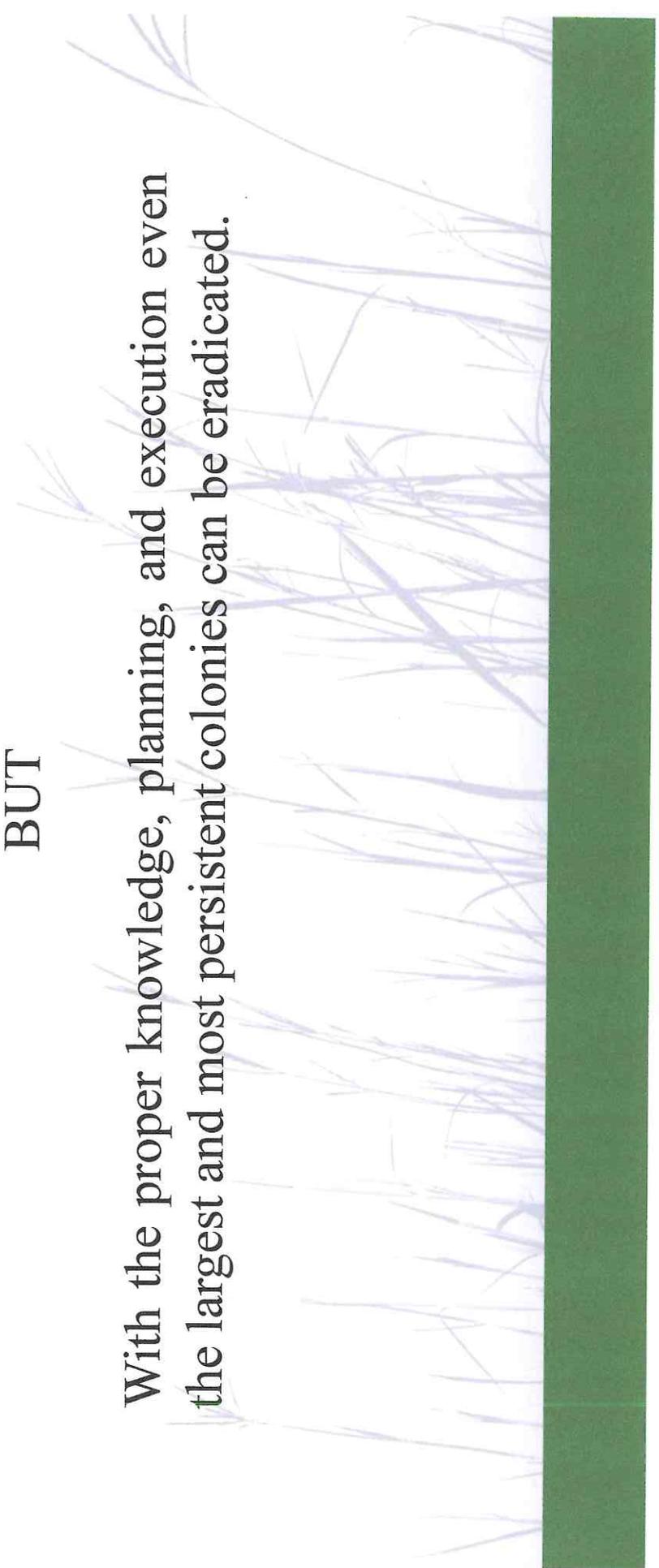
Remember, elimination can be costly but management is **forever**.

## Summary

*Phragmites australis* is one of the most aggressive invasive species threatening ecosystems throughout New York State and can be difficult to control...

BUT

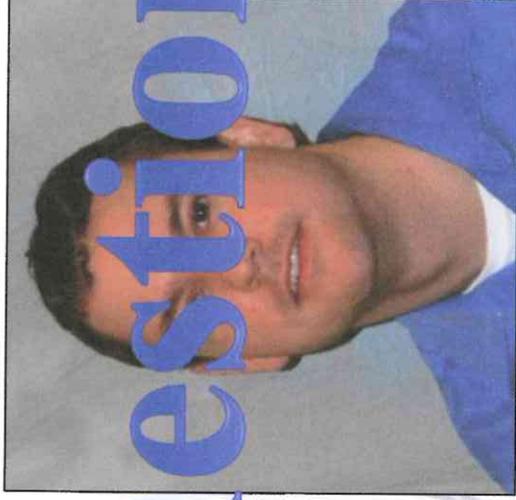
With the proper knowledge, planning, and execution even the largest and most persistent colonies can be eradicated.



## References

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- <http://plants.usda.gov/java/charProfile?symbol=PHAU7>
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- Tu, Mandy, Hurd, Callie, & Randall, John M., The Nature Conservancy, 2001. Weed Control Methods Handbook: Tools & Techniques for Use in Natural Areas

Nathan Carlton  
*Restoration Ecologist*  
Syracuse, NY



# Questions?

*Contacts*

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