

To whom it may concern,

RE: INVASIVE PLANT CONTROL

Invasive Phragmites (pictured below) is considered Canada's worst invasive species because of its ability to take over natural areas, damage infrastructure (such as roads, driveways, utilities), reduce property value, and threaten public health and safety by posing a fire risk and obstructing sightlines along roads.



The Cataraqi Region Phragmites Working Group, led by Cataraqi Conservation, is a collection of local organizations, associations, municipalities, government agencies, and public volunteers working together to monitor and control invasive Phragmites.

Why am I receiving this letter?

You are receiving this letter because we have identified invasive Phragmites on or near your property that we would like to control to prevent the above noted impacts. If you agree to control, Cataraqi Conservation and its partners will:

- Cover the cost of control. The control method suitable for most invasive Phragmites infestations is herbicide. Please see our herbicide information sheet for more information or reach out to us directly if you have any questions.
- Oversee an experienced, licensed contractor to apply the herbicide treatment.
- Conduct a follow-up visit to assess the effectiveness of the control and work with you to schedule future treatments. Phragmites often take 3-5 years of consecutive treatments (one treatment per year) to eliminate.

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- If you agree to treatment and the patch on your property is considered dense, we recommend cutting down or flattening the dead standing Phragmites stalks a few weeks after herbicide application. You may choose to do this yourself if you have the means or hire a landscaping/lawn maintenance contractor at your own cost. Cutting or rolling the Phragmites after treatment is a best management practice that ensures the dead standing stalks left behind are not in the way of subsequent herbicide treatments.

What can I expect from treatment?

Phragmites generally forms dense stands where it is the only plant growing. Therefore, treating these patches often results in a barren area where the Phragmites patch once stood. Below are pictures of what to expect after treatment and mowing:



We understand that the area left behind may not appear ideal at first; however, it is important to remember that after a few years of consecutive herbicide treatments and follow-up mowing this area can be successfully restored. This process also creates an opportunity to make a positive change by enhancing habitat conditions and better



support local wildlife and natural biodiversity. Once we have confirmed with you that Phragmites has been sufficiently eliminated from the site, you may wish to replant the area with non-invasive or native plants. Cataraqui Conservation may be able to assist with providing low-cost plants to help you reclaim and improve the space. You will want to closely monitor the replanted area to ensure that no new Phragmites shoots appear and quickly remove any that do.

When will the work take place?

Control work is tentatively scheduled to take place over the second and third weeks of September 2026. Please let us know as soon as possible if we have your permission to treat the invasive Phragmites.

If we missed you: Please see the contact information provided below and call or email to let us know whether you would like your invasive Phragmites patch treated. Also, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you,

The Cataraqui Region Phragmites Working Group

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