

Request for Proposals
Ohio Invasive Plants Council
Invasive Plants Research Grants



Deadline: November 18th, 2016
Award Amounts: Up to \$1,000/project

Overview: The Ohio Invasive Plants Council seeks proposals for research *that enhances the understanding and effective control of invasive plants that are significant threats to Ohio's natural areas*. Projects initiated by land managers, undergraduate or graduate students, or amateur botanists are welcomed. Proposals from land managers are particularly encouraged as we know many control methods are being used in the field. We encourage submission of field trials that compare effectiveness of different control methods.

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We will accept and review proposals that focus on basic biology, ecology, management, distribution, and horticultural aspects of invasive plants in Ohio. We will consider any project on invasive plants in Ohio, but we have several priority topics that will receive additional points in the proposal scoring. Some of these relate to insufficient information on potential invasive plants, particularly those being evaluated by the OIPC Assessment Team.

- (1) Research on management/control methods for invasive plants in Ohio (especially lesser celandine, Japanese knotweed, or Japanese stiltgrass).
- (2) What is the distribution of *Paulownia tomentosa* (princess tree, empress tree) in Ohio?
- (3) What is the identity of individuals/populations of escaped *Euonymus alata* (burning bush) – are these the wild species, cultivars, or hybrid mixes?
- (4) What is the seed production of *Euonymus fortunei* 'Coloratus' in Ohio?
- (5) What are the effects of *Rubus phoenicolasius* (wineberry) on native plant or animal species in Ohio?
- (6) Does *Lythrum virgatum* contribute to invasive populations of *L. salicaria* in Ohio? How do these two species interact in natural areas?

Format: Proposals should be written using ≥ 12 point font submitted as a single PDF file, and should include a cover sheet, proposal, CV/resume, and (optional) letter of collaboration. The cover sheet is limited to 1 page and must include (a) title, (b) names and contact information for all individuals involved in the project, (c) and the specific OIPC research priority addressed, and (d) the total dollar amount of the request. The body of the proposal should be no more than 4 pages, and may include the following sections: Introduction, Problem Statement and/or Hypotheses, Methods, Timeline, Itemized Budget with Justification, and Plans for Disseminating Findings. An optional literature cited section may be included, and does not count toward this 4-page limit. The author of the proposal (PI) should include a 2-page curriculum vita (CV, biosketch, or resume). The proposal may also include a letter of collaboration (e.g., from a student's advisor or a collaborating land manager).

Review Process: Proposals will be submitted as PDF documents to Dr. Jean H. Burns at the following email address: jbm122@case.edu. If there are any questions during proposal development, Dr. Burns may be contacted at the same email address. The email should have “OIPC Research Grant” in subject line. The file name of the document submitted should be in the following format: LastNameofPI_OIPC_Grant_2016. Grants will be first screened for appropriateness to the RFP and formatting, and then reviewed for content by a panel of experts.

Restrictions: OIPC funds cannot be used for University overhead, travel to meetings, PI salary, or expenses that are a necessary part of a research lab. Funds must be justified in the budget justification section and can include equipment, supplies, stipend, and travel to conduct research.

Reporting: Awardees are required to deliver a 1-page final report to OIPC at the conclusion of the project, and any publication or presentation of the data collected during this project must provide acknowledgement of support by OIPC. We encourage the awardees to present their findings at the OIPC Annual Meeting the year following the award.

Please contact Jean Burns, jbm122@case.edu, if you have any question about this award.