Invasive Shrub Training, August 2020

Background

Originally these two training sessions were going to be a partnership between Huron Pines and Kirtland Community College. They would have created an additional connection between the two organizations, as well as allow us to test out another variation on virtual programming. While the original idea was non-viable, we still decided to go forward with the formatting changes.

For the Purple Loosestrife Training, which was held a month prior, both sessions were held live with audience participation for both. In this one, though, only the second session was held live in an effort to test audience connection to recorded content. The first session covered the identification of four invasive shrub species (autumn olive, common buckthorn, glossy buckthorn and Japanese barberry), and the second session dealt with reporting instances of invasive species to MISIN. Just like the former training, it was mandatory that participants watch the first session's video before coming to the live session. Ideally, this would ensure that they understood identification and could come to the live session with any questions.

The approximately 30 minute live session was provided via Zoom (meeting capability) live on September 15th at 2:00 pm EST and recordings were uploaded to the Huron Pines YouTube channel within 24 hours. Approximately 40 minutes of content was provided with up to 20 minutes of Q&A time made available. A resource was provided via email to those interested that outlined the primary content covered, vocabulary, and additional learning resources or activities associated with the session, as well as for the recorded first session. All the slides and recordings were made available to participants.

Methods

A Google Form was used to collect evaluation data. This data was collected anonymously and not required of participants. The evaluation link was provided after the live session via email.

Participation data was collected via Zoom's Manage Participants feature. Huron Pines staff noted participant display names, as well as the number of participants, total at the peak during the live session. The limitation to the participant data reflected is in the participant's ability to change their display name and for participants that joined via phone as well as participants with only a first name displayed; notes are included with the data to account for that.

Participation Summary

AC Ashley Cousens

JK Jessica Kusku

M marjie

M Michael Fields

S Schultz

S Sharon

SR Suzanne renard

WI William's iPhone

📞 William Anderson's iPhone

Evaluation Summary

19 responses (15 pre-survey and 4 post-survey) were collected through Sept. 21, 2020. However, four of the pre-survey responses came from the same person so three of their responses were dismissed in the subsequent evaluation. The pre-survey was sent out ahead of the training session and had 12 viable responses compared to the 9 attendees of the live session. Based on the total live participation (n=9), the response rate for the post-survey evaluation was 44%. Since we collected identifying information for the pre- and post-surveys we could match up the 4

participants who responded to the post-survey to their pre-survey responses. When comparing the post-survey responses from the specific attendees to their pre-survey responses, the average change was +1.4, indicating that they did learn something from the sessions.

Pre-Survey Responses

Twelve (n=12) participants responded to the statement: "*I can explain what an invasive species is to a friend.*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 4.6 with the most frequently used response of "*Strongly Agree*", n=7.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
n=0	n=0	n=0	n=5	n=7

Twelve (n=12) participants responded to the statement: "*I can identify autumn olive in the wild.*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 2.8 with the most frequently used response of "*Disagree*", n=5.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
n=2	n=5	n=1	n=1	n=3

Twelve (n=12) participants responded to the statement: "*I can identify common buckthorn in the wild.*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 2.0 with the most frequently used response of "*Disagree*", n=7.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
n=3	n=7	n=1	n=1	n=0

Twelve (n=12) participants responded to the statement: "*I can identify glossy buckthorn in the wild.*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 2.0 with the most frequently used response of "*Disagree*", n=7.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
n=3	n=7	n=1	n=1	n=0

Twelve (n=12) participants responded to the statement: "*I can identify Japanese barberry in the wild.*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 2.8 with the most frequently used response of "*Disagree*", n=6.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
n=1	n=6	n=0	n=4	n=1

Twelve (n=12) participants responded to the statement: "*I can name at least one lookalike plant for autumn olive, buckthorn and Japanese barberry*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 2.2 with the most frequently used response of "*Disagree*", n=4.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
n=3	n=4	n=1	n=2	n=0

Twelve (n=12) participants responded to the statement: "*I know where to report instances of invasive species.*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 1.8 with the most frequently used response of "*Disagree*", n=7.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
n=4	n=7	n=1	n=0	n=0

Topically grouped responses to "*Why are you attending this training session?*"

- Have It and/or Want to Learn to Control It (n=4) - *We have the invasive on about 30 acres of wetland; To learn about purple loosestrife, both how to ID and remove. Also general increase in knowledge about invasive species removal; In partnership with Caroline Keson at Tip of the Mitt I am the Larks Lake Purple Loosestrife Coordinator. I want to be more effective in managing the loosestrife; I want to help limit invasive species in my area.*
- Interest in Botany and/or Invasive Species (n=4) - *Love flowers* (n=2)*; To find out what it is; I am very interested in learning more about invasive species;*
- Local and/or Live Near Water (n=2) - *I live on the AuSable River and enjoy kayaking; Live near lake*

Post-Survey Responses

Four (n=4) participants responded to the statement: "*I can explain what an invasive species is to a friend.*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 4.5 with the most frequently used responses being "*Strongly Agree*" and "*Agree*", n=2.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
n=0	n=0	n=0	n=2	n=2

Four (n=4) participants responded to the statement: "*I can identify autumn olive in the wild.*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 3.5 with the most frequently used response of "*Agree*", n=3.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	n=0	n=1	n=0	n=3	n=0

Four (n=4) participants responded to the statement: "*I can identify common buckthorn in the wild.*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 3.5 with the most frequently used response of "*Agree*", n=3.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	n=0	n=1	n=0	n=3	n=0

Four (n=4) participants responded to the statement: "*I can identify glossy buckthorn in the wild.*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 3.5 with the most frequently used response of "*Agree*", n=3.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	n=0	n=1	n=0	n=3	n=0

Four (n=4) participants responded to the statement: "*I can identify Japanese barberry in the wild.*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 4.0 with the most frequently used response of "*Strongly Agree*", n=2.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	n=0	n=1	n=0	n=1	n=2

Four (n=4) participants responded to the statement: "*I can name at least one lookalike plant for autumn olive, buckthorn and Japanese barberry*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 2.8 with the most frequently used response of "*Neutral*", n=3.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	n=0	n=1	n=3	n=0	n=0

Four (n=4) participants responded to the statement: "*I know where to report instances of invasive species.*" Assigning values 1-5 to the response options below, the average response was 4.5 with the most frequently used responses being "*Strongly Agree*" and "*Agree*", n=2.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	n=0	n=0	n=0	n=2	n=2