

# Not in My Backyard!

Help protect Michigan from destructive and harmful invasive species.

## Big reed. Big problem.

*Phragmites australis* (frag-MY-teez aw-STRAY-lis), also known as common reed, is a perennial wetland grass that can grow to 15 feet in height. This invasive variety of phragmites is becoming widespread throughout Michigan and is threatening the ecological health of wetlands and the Great Lakes shoreline.

15'

6'



## Crowds out everything you love about Michigan.

Invasive phragmites creates tall, dense stands that degrade wetlands and coastal areas by crowding out native plants and animals. It's also capable of blocking shoreline views, reducing access for swimming on lakes, and overwhelming city parks and even backyard ponds. As if that wasn't enough, it's also a fire hazard when dry.

## Prevention is key. You can help make a difference.

It is extremely difficult to control the spread of an invasive species once it is established. The most effective strategy against invasive species is to stop the spread ... and prevent their introduction on a local level.



**Learn** how to properly identify *Phragmites australis*.



**Report** infestations at [Michigan.gov/NotInMyBackyard](https://Michigan.gov/NotInMyBackyard).



**Download** the free Midwest Invasive Species Network (MISIN) app that gives you the power to identify invasive plants and animals and upload your findings.

 **Detect** +  **Respond** +  **Control** +  **Restore**

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