

# WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

ALIEN INVADERS



# LEAFY SPURGE

*Euphorbia esula*

## BASIC ID

This perennial has stems 6"-36" tall, with bluish-green leaves and yellow-green flowers. It has a milky white sap that can cause dermatitis.

## IMPACTS

Native to Eurasia, leafy spurge can dominate native grasslands and pastures. It prefers sunlight and dry, light soils but can occur in a wide variety of sites. It is toxic to cattle.

## MANAGEMENT

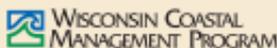
- Hand-pulling is not effective because the entire root system, which can reach 15 feet deep, must be removed
- Apply specific herbicides repeatedly over many years
- Biological control via insects and goats

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

[www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/invasive](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/invasive)

Photo: Elizabeth Czarapata

Recycled paper



WISCONSIN COASTAL  
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



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WISCONSIN  
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES