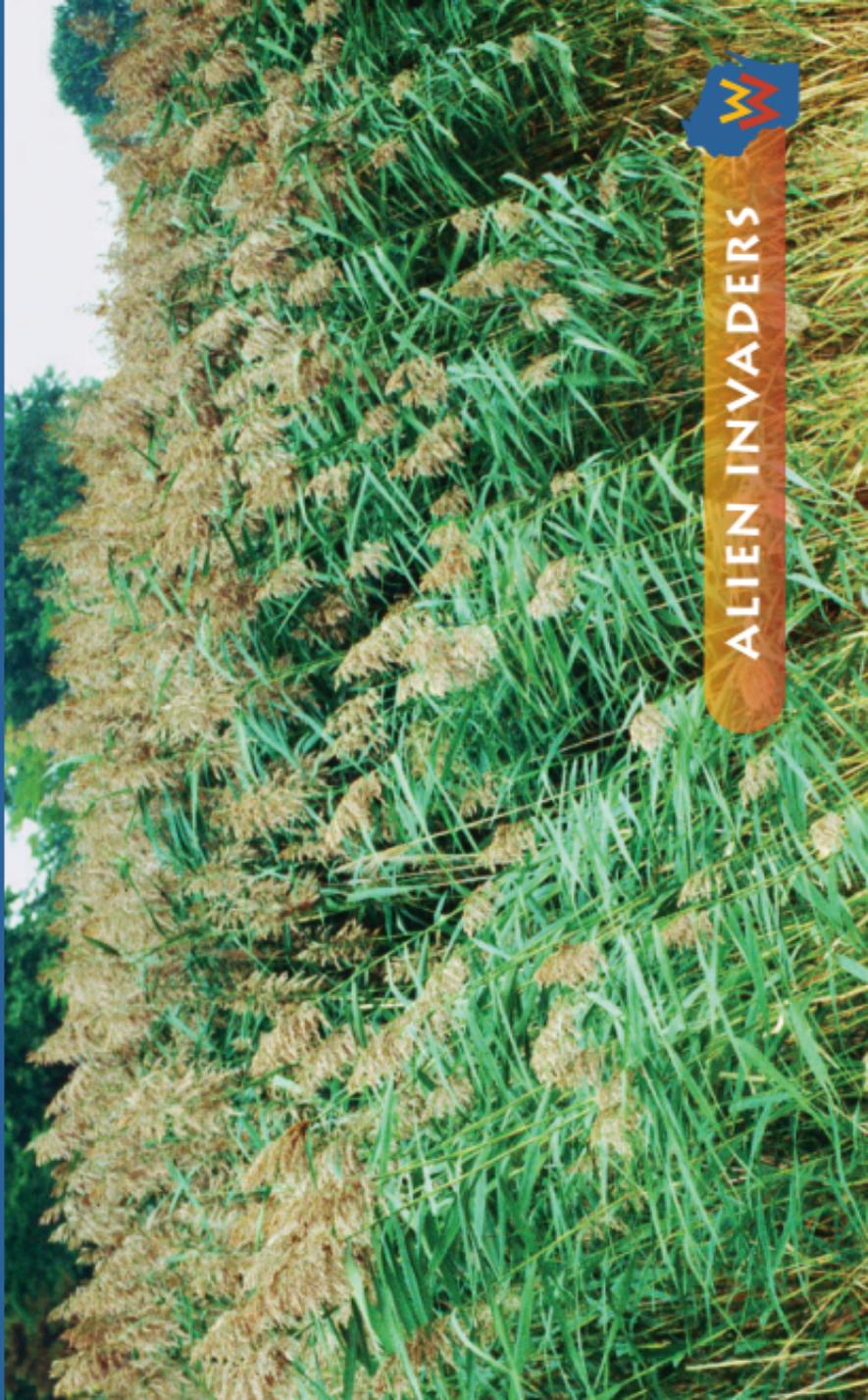


WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

ALIEN INVADERS

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COMMON REED GRASS

Phragmites australis

BASIC ID

This perennial reed grass, with gray-green leaves, is found most often in large colonies, ranging in height from 6' to 13'. It has a large light-brown to purple flower spike that appears between July and September.

IMPACTS

Every continent except Antarctica has native phragmites species, but research indicates that most aggressive stands are not native. It is found most commonly in and near marshes, swamps, fens, shorelines and roadside ditches, growing in thick patches. It blocks out native species.

MANAGEMENT

- Apply herbicides to young leaves or cut stems
- Cut repeatedly over several years

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/invasive

Photo: Kelly Kearns,
WI DNR

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