

# **Flowering Rush Project**

- <u>Goal:</u> To eradicate any remaining Flowering Rush from the main bed on the White River Flowage.
- <u>Project Area:</u> 3 acre bed on the western shore at the Northern end of the Flowage between properties of Steve Dahlke and Chuck Dahlke, across the Flowage from the property of Jerry Genson (see map).
- <u>Type of Work Requested:</u> Hand pull Flowering Rush (including root bulb systems buried 4-6" in the silt) under the supervision of Golden Sands RC&D in approx. 1' of water. Recommend using canoes and/or kayaks (provided by District members). See details on attached page.
- Number of Days Requested: 1 or 2 days
- Any Chemicals or Hazardous Materials: No
- <u>Accommodations:</u> White River Campground on County Road YY (by the dam on the south end) will provide tent sites as well as public showers/restrooms.
- Other Safety Risks: Possible leeches present
- <u>Tools/Equipment</u>: Use of canoes and/or kayaks will be likely be donated by District members. Pails to put the pulled plants in will be provided by the District.

# Flowering Rush Project on the White River Flowage

# Day 1 – Week of June 25<sup>th</sup>

#### 8:30 am Training of the Americorps Volunteers at the White River Trail landing

Americorps volunteers must sign in for training at the White River Trail landing located on White River Trail off 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue 4 miles south of Wautoma at 8:30 am. Golden Sands staff and/or Lynn Bockenhauer of the WRFLMD will conduct a brief training session on the identification and removal method of Flowering Rush. Proper removal involves reaching about 4-6" beneath the silt to locate the root structure and gently pulling up without dislodging the attached tubers. The removed plants are then swirled about in the water to remove excess silt and muck and placed in 5-gallon buckets provided by the District. Donated kayaks and canoes with life jackets will be available at the landing. A brief training session on the use of a kayak and/or canoe will be offered. The District will provide pastry and juice. There are parking sites available for the Americorps vehicles at the landing.

## 9-12 Work at Flowering Rush Main Bed

The group will proceed to ground zero (the main bed) of the Flowering Rush (FR) located approx. ½ mile north of the landing. The District's harvester will accompany the group. The harvester is used to transport the removed aquatic plants back to the landing where they will be hauled to a designated dump site. Once everyone arrives at ground zero, the group will commence pulling the FR. Once their buckets fill up, they will bring them to the harvester where the contents will be transferred by the harvester operator into 55-gallon drums. Then they will resume removing FR.

## 12-1 <u>Lunch at Geier Property</u>

The group will canoe/kayak to the home of Mike Geier at W7529 White River Trail (just north of the landing) for lunch. A simple lunch will be provided (hot dogs, chips, water, soda, etc.) Bathrooms are available.

## 1-4:30 Work at Flowering Rush Main Bed

The group will canoe/kayak back to ground zero and continue with hand pulling operation. When finished for the day, the group will return to the Geier residence so the equipment can be power washed. The landing is within walking distance of the Geier home so they can pick up their vehicle(s) and drive to the campgrounds.

#### 5 pm Campsite Setup

Several tent campsites have been reserved at the White River Campgrounds located approx.1 mile south of the White River Trail landing. There are public restrooms and showers available. An evening meal will be provided by members of the White River Flowage Association at the campgrounds around 6:30-7:00 pm.

## Day 2 – Week of June 25<sup>th</sup>

#### 9 am Return to Geier Property

Since all the canoes/kayaks will be kept at the Geier residence overnight, the Americorps volunteers should come directly to that location. Once everyone is ready, the group will return to ground zero and resume hand pulling as the day before.

## 12-1 Lunch at Geier Property

The group will again canoe/kayak to the Geier residence for lunch. Another simple lunch will be provided (bbq beef sandwiches, water, soda, etc.).

### 1-4:30 Work at Flowering Rush Main Bed

The group will canoe/kayak back to the main bed and continue with hand pulling operation. When finished for the day, the group will again return to the Geier residence so the equipment can be power washed. The District will return all borrowed equipment to their owners. The Americorps volunteers will be offered the opportunity to clean up before leaving.

NOTE:

Because this project is conducted outdoors, the weather must be considered. Inclement weather conditions (rain, lightning, high winds, etc.) could cause this project to be postponed until conditions are ideal. We will tentatively schedule this project for Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, June 26<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of June 27<sup>th</sup>.