

Aquatic Plant News

The Newsletter of the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. December, 2021 – Issue 128



Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. 100 Winterberry Lane | Holly Springs, NC 27540

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Newsletter Editor, Amy Giannotti

APMS President's Update

When I sat down to write this update, I was watching snow fly outside an American Flag outside my window. I was reminded of the upcoming (and now passed by the time this newsletter goes out) Veterans Day Holiday, and the upcoming Holiday Season. For all of you who have served, or have family that have served, we thank you. And, may everyone have a safe and healthy holiday season.

I will keep my note brief, and just highlight a few of the activities that are occurring between now and our next annual meeting.

There are several regional chapter meetings, and several other Societies' meetings, that will occur between now and our next annual meeting. In particular, the Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, from May 14-20 (<u>https://jasm2022.aquaticsocieties.</u>



org/). This meeting is sure to have a presence from APMS and MAPMS members, and the Board believes this meeting presents a substantial opportunity to interact with other professional societies that deal with aquatic biology, ecology, and management, and in doing so contribute to fulfilling several of our stated strategic goals including:

- 1) designing and implementing a broad marketing and outreach plan
- 2) increasing APMS membership and participation
- 3) stimulating job opportunities for our promising students

I hope you will consider attending the Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting, as well as regional chapters meetings and relevant meetings from other professional societies.

Stay tuned for the impending launch of the new APMS website. The improved website will provide all of the same base pages as the current website, but will have improved navigability and functionality, including being more mobile-friendly, and responsive across different platforms.

Finally, we have begun the process of converting APMS to a 501(c)(3) organization. This conversion will enable tax-deductible contributions, which is important to our strategic vision of making the Michael D. Netherland Graduate Student Research Grant self-sustaining. This research grant is currently offered every other year, and provides a grant for a full-time graduate student to conduct research in aquatic plant management or ecology of regionally or nationally recognized nuisance aquatic vegetation. The grant is currently co-sponsored by APMS and all regional APMS chapters. Our ultimate goal is to have this research grant awarded yearly, and to be self-sustaining from annual returns.

Sincerely,

Rya DZ

Ryan Thum President – APMS 2 / AQUATIC PLANT NEWS

Coming Up APMS Midyear Board of Directors Meeting



The Board of Directors met in October of 2021 and discussed the plans for the Midyear Board Meeting for early 2022. Given the uncertainty of travel in the new year, the Board decided to hold the Midyear meeting virtually on January 25, 2022. Please contact President Ryan Thum (<u>ryan.thum@montana.edu</u>) if you have items for discussion.

We look forward to gathering again in-person in the summer of 2022 for the 62nd Annual Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society in Greenville, SC from July 18-22!



APMS moving to 501c3 status to make gift-giving easier!

The Aquatic Plant Management Society was founded in July of 1961 under the name Hyacinth Control Society. When initially incorporated, the Society was set up as a 501 (c)(5). This is generally designated for labor, agricultural or horticultural organizations. There are many benefits to this designation, but contributions from members or other supporters are not tax-deductible, thus limiting larger donations.

For this reason, on August 15th, the APMS Board of Directors approved a motion to convert the Society from a 501 (c)(5) to a 501 (c)(3). The latter designation allows donors to make contributions which are to be tax-deductible. The hope is that this transition will encourage gift-giving to the Society and help fund programs like the Michael D. Netherland Graduate Student Research Grant. This \$40,000 grant is awarded biannually and is vital to promote continued research in our industry.

The process will take some time, but the benefit we hope is worth the effort. We will update the Society on the progress, and we're confident this new designation will financially benefit and support the continued growth of APMS.

2021-2022 Calendar of Events for Regional Chapter Meetings & Related Events



In Memoriam

APMS grieves the loss of Dr. John Clayton who passed away in August 2021. John was the 2017 recipient of the Outstanding International Contributor Award and was a pioneer in managing aquatic weeds in New Zealand. He has published in the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management, and his work is widely cited by scientists the world over. APMS extends our sympathies to his family, friends, and colleagues.

Dr. John Sinclair Clayton passed away aged 71 on 28th August 2021, after a long illness. John is survived by his loving and supportive wife of 47 years Munikh, and his children Simrana, Shalini and Krishnan and families.

John completed his BSc and PhD at Auckland University under John (J.M.A.) Brown in 1979 and published several papers on the botany of the Rotorua lakes with Dr. Brown and Professor Val (V.J.) Chapman from 1975 to 1981.

He was one of the NIWA originals, joining the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries ("the MAF") in 1978 after a two year position of Engineering Scientist at NZED (Electricity Division). He worked in the Aquatic Plant Section dealing with the management of problem aquatic weeds, an issue for John that was 'front and centre' throughout his career, and one that he became the national go-to person and world-leading expert on. John led the MAF Aquatic Plant team in 1985 and he was instrumental in ensuring his team became part of the environmentally focused Crown Research Institute. the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Ltd. (NIWA), in 1992. At NIWA, John continued his leadership role both as Programme Leader and Principal Scientist: Aquatic Plants, morphing into the Freshwater Biosecurity team in 2004. John retired in June 2016 but continued to hold an emeritus position at NIWA.

John had a stellar science career, with over 60 refereed scientific papers and book chapters, with many more significant works. He received several awards including the 2003 Royal Society Science and Technology medal, the 2011 KuDos WEL Network Environmental Science award and the 2017 Aquatic Plant Management Society (USA-based) International Contribution award.

He loved field work and diving was a huge part of his science life, getting underwater certainly gave John a great understanding of lake ecology, the impact of invasive plants and how submerged plants act like the 'canary in the coalmine'. His achievements included aquatic vegetation assessment techniques, the co-development of LakeSPI, a lake condition indicator, now used as part of the essential freshwater package released by the NZ government in August 2020, weed risk assessment and management techniques for submerged weeds.

As the APMS award suggests, John's expertise has been sought widely internationally and has led to collaborations globally including various groups in Europe, North America, South Africa and Australia. In New Zealand, he also worked closely with many regional and central government agencies and businesses that were impacted by aquatic weeds.

John was a very humble man, insightful and wise. He led by example and was generous with his time. He was always there to mentor and guide his team supporting them to excel in their own careers. John has had a huge impact on the field of freshwater biosecurity, long may his legacy continue.











Carve your name on hearts, not tombstones. A legacy is etched into the minds of others and the stories they share about you. —Shannon Alder

NEW APMS WEBSITE

The Aquatic Plant Management Society is pleased to announce the launch of our newly designed website!! Coming soon (or maybe already launched by the time you receive this), is an updated and functional new look for APMS on the internet!

A big thanks to APEX, the Website Committee, and to the members who have submitted feedback and photos as we worked to develop this new design. We are excited! This new website will be much more functional on mobile devices which is a tremendous improvement from the previous website.

This new site will house all of our traditional content available to the public, have live links to our social media activity, and have a Members Only section where current members will be able to login, review publications, make payments/ renew memberships, register for meetings, update your profile, and more!

Once launched, the first time you login, you will need to click the button to "request a password". This will be emailed to you, and then you can login and proceed with exploring the site.

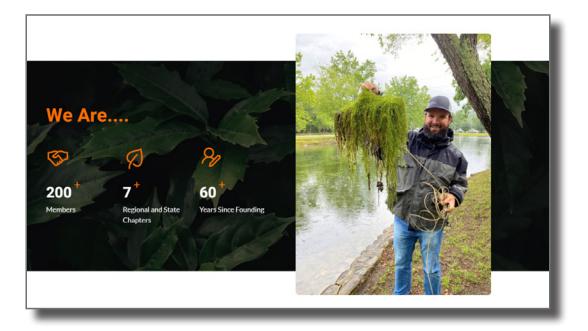


AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY

The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. (APMS) is an international organization of scientists, educators, students, commercial pesticide applicators, administrators, and concerned individuals interested in the management and study of aquatic plants.







2022 APMS Annual Meeting

The 62nd Annual Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society will be held in Greenville, South Carolina, from July 18-22, 2022.

There are lots of neat things to do and see in the Piedmont! Start planning your adventure now by visiting <u>https://www.visitgreenvillesc.com</u>.

Watch announcements on social media and email for the launch of our new website. Information for registration, hotel reservations, abstract submissions, etc. will be available there!



Regional Chapter Updates

From SCAPMS:

Scholarship Fund Reaches Goal of \$100K

One of the four missions of the Society as stated in our By-laws is to "promote university scholarships." Soon after the Society was formed in 1979, we began raising money to build a scholarship fund. And by 1991 we amassed a whopping \$10,000 and gave out our first scholarship of \$1,000. Now 30 years later we can look back and take pride in providing financial support totaling \$76,000 to 34 students attending 11 different colleges and universities in the southeast. We are the only local chapter that opens its scholarship to the entire United States provided the research is applicable to South Carolina. In fact, 61% of all our scholarships have gone to students attending schools outside the state. One of the goals of the Scholarship Committee and Phil Fields, who the scholarship is named after because of his fundraising prowess, was to build it up to \$100,000. Thanks to good investing over the years and a decision by the current Board to transfer excess operational funds to the scholarship fund, we have reached that goal. But most of the credit needs to go to our members who have been so generous over the years in supporting our fundraising efforts through raffle ticket sales, golf and fishing tournaments, and duck races. The Scholarship Fund now totals over \$113,000 and the Board has increased the annual scholarship to \$5,000!

The 2021 Scholarship of \$5,000 was awarded to Katelynn Linder at LSU.

Katelynn Linder graduated from The Citadel with a B.S. in Biology and is currently attending Louisiana State University where she is pursuing a M.S. in Plant, Environmental and Soil Science. She is currently studying under LSU adjunct professor and research biologist with EDRC Dr. Christopher Mudge. Her research focuses on chemical control of Salvinia molesta through the investigation of alternative control methods, impact of shade on efficacy, chemical winter plant control, and refinement of metsulfuron (MSM) use patterns.



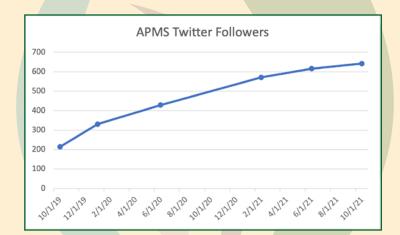
Be a Leader...and a Follower!

In addition to our website, newsletter, and member interactions, APMS uses social media to communicate information about the Society, research, management techniques, regional chapters, and learning opportunities. These engaging posts reach a variety of individuals, organizations, corporations, and agencies across Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

Facebook - @APMS1961 Instagram - @apmsociety Twitter - @APMSociety LinkedIn – Aquatic Plant Management Society

Here is a brief summary of our followers since a concerted effort was made to facilitate outreach on these platforms.

If you have content or information to share, please reach out to Amy Giannotti, Social Media Manager for APMS at <u>amy@aquastemconsulting.com</u>, or John Madsen, APMS Group Manager for LinkedIn at<u>jmadsen@ucdavis.edu</u>.







Data for the 2021 Weed Survey for Aquatic Weeds Available

Data for the 2021 survey of the most common and troublesome weeds in aquatic and non-crop areas in the U.S. and Canada is available at: <u>https://wssa.net/wp-content/uploads/2021-survey-aquatic-noncrop.xlsx</u> Summarized results are coming soon. Common weeds refer to those weeds you most frequently see, while troublesome weeds are those that are most difficult to control, but may not be widespread. The survey data includes the most common and troublesome weeds in the following areas:

- 1. Aquatic: irrigation, flood control
- 2. Aquatic: lakes, reservoirs, rivers
- 3. Aquatic: ponds
- 4. Forestry
- 5. Natural Areas: parks, wildlife refuges
- 6. Ornamentals: field nursery crops, outdoor containers, Christmas trees
- 7. Right-Of-Ways: railways, roads, public utilities

Combining all three aquatic weed survey areas (irrigation & flood control; lakes, reservoirs, & rivers; and ponds), the **top two most common weeds** were **Potamogeton spp**. (52) and Myriophyllum spp. (50). The third and fourth most common species were *Hydrilla verticillate* (32) and *Eichhornia crassipes* (29).

Again, combining all three aquatic weed survey areas, **the most troublesome weed was** *Myriophyllum spp*. (51). The second through fifth most troublesome aquatic weeds included *Hydrilla verticillate* (33), *Potamogeton spp*. (32), algae spp. (25) and *Eichhornia crassipes* (25).

2021 Science Policy Fellows: Rebecca Champagne and Devon Carroll



Rebecca is a third year Ph.D. candidate at the University of Maine working with Dr. Eric Gallandt. Her research primarily focuses on physical and cultural weed management in organic vegetable systems, mainly for small-scale, diversified operations. Prior to her Ph.D. work, she received a B.S. in Sustainable Agriculture from the University of Maine and an M.S. in Agronomy from Penn State. She also worked as a research analyst for an agricultural software startup in New York City. Rebecca's past involvement in the ASA-CSSA-SSSA Congressional Visit Days piqued her interest in science policy work, where she saw an opportunity to apply her research and critical thinking skills to affect positive changes for U.S. agriculture. She is passionate about helping small-scale farmers and underrepresented groups through policy and is excited for the opportunities the WSSA policy fellowship will bring.



Devon is a third year Ph.D. candidate at the University of Tennessee studying Turfgrass Weed Science under the direction of Dr. Jim Brosnan. Her dissertation research is focused on understanding how environmental factors affect the length of life of the species Poa annua L. Devon earned a B.S. in Turfgrass Science and M.S. in Agronomy focused in turfgrass both from Penn State. She also holds a second M.S. in Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communications from the University of Tennessee. Devon is passionate about communication and has sought opportunities to expand her skills in this area. Most notably, she conducted sociological research aiming to understand barriers and opportunities for women in the turfgrass industry and was selected to participate in the ASA-CSSA-SSSA Congressional Visits Day. Devon is interested in engaging with stakeholders across the weed science discipline to learn more about how scientific communication shapes policy.



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Connor Confirmed for Top Army Civil Works Post



Michael Connor, former commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, was confirmed on Nov. 4, by a 92 – 5 vote in the Senate, to be the next Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, which oversees all civilian work for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Connor held the number-two position at Interior from 2014 to 2017 during the Obama administration. Before that, he was commissioner of Interior's Bureau of Reclamation, from 2009 to 2014. Connor was a partner in the law firm Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP prior to his nomination. He also worked on Capitol Hill from 2001 to 2009, as counsel to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Infrastructure Bill Authorizes Nearly \$500 Million for Invasive Species Management

On Nov. 5, the House of Representatives passed the Senate version of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The bill now goes to the President where he is expected to sign it into law on Nov. 15. The infrastructure bill will cost \$1.2 trillion over eight years, and has more than \$550 billion in new spending.

Part of the environmental remediation spending in the infrastructure bill includes almost \$500 million for the following invasive species management programs:

SEC. 11522. Invasive Plant Elimination Program. Federal-Aid Highways. **\$250 million** total, \$50 million per year for FY 2022 thru FY 2026. The Secretary (Department of Transportation, through the Federal Highway Administration) *"shall carry out a program to provide grants to States to eliminate or control existing invasive plants or prevent introduction of or encroachment by new invasive plants along and in areas adjacent to transportation corridor rights-of-way".*

The term "**invasive plant**" means a nonnative plant, tree, grass, or weed species, including, at a minimum: **cheatgrass, Ventenata dubia, medusahead, bulbous bluegrass, Japanese brome, rattail fescue, Japanese honeysuckle, phragmites, autumn olive, Bradford pear, wild parsnip, sericea lespedeza, spotted knapweed, garlic mustard, and palmer amaranth.**

SEC. 40804. Ecosystem Restoration. Through the US Forest Service, <u>\$200 million</u> total for the fiscal years 2022 through 2026)shall be made available for *invasive species detection, prevention, and eradication, including conducting research* and providing resources to facilitate detection of invasive species at points of entry and awarding grants for eradication of invasive species on non-Federal land and on Federal land.

SEC. 40907. Multi-Benefit Project To Improve Watershed Health. Through the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR). Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the BOR Commissioner, in consultation with the heads of relevant agencies, shall establish a competitive grant program to award grants to eligible applicants for the design, implementation, and monitoring of conservation outcomes of habitat restoration projects that improve watershed health in a river basin that is adversely impacted by a Bureau of Reclamation water project by accomplishing 1 or more of the following:

1. Ecosystem benefits.

- 2. Restoration of native species.
- 3. Mitigation against the impacts of climate change to fish and wildlife habitats.
- 4. Protection against invasive species.
- 5. Restoration of aspects of the natural ecosystem.
- 6. Enhancement of commercial, recreational, subsistence, or Tribal ceremonial fishing.
- 7. Enhancement of river-based recreation.

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Still No Agreement on "Budget Reconciliation" Bill

The National and Regional Weed Science Societies are continuing to engage on the budget reconciliation bill to make sure weed science research and management issues are well represented. <u>One letter</u> to Congressional leadership highlighted the \$500 million in additional funding proposed for USDA-NIFA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI). <u>A second letter</u>, which was coordinated by the National Coalition for Food and Agriculture Research (NCFAR), also requested support for the \$7.75 billion designated for agricultural research. That letter was endorsed by over 130 stakeholder groups including the six national and regional weed science societies.

As I write this, Congress has not agreed to a final budget reconciliation bill. The current version of the bill provides a \$2 billion increase overall for agricultural research and infrastructure, compared to the original \$7.75 billion that was proposed.

Chuck Sams Nominated as National Park Service Director



President Biden has nominated Charles F. "Chuck" Sams III to serve as the next Director of the National Park Service (NPS), a position that requires confirmation from the U.S. Senate and has been vacant since 2017. Sams currently serves as a Council Member to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council and has worked in state and tribal governments and the nonprofit natural resource and conservation management fields for more than 25 years. He has previously held a number of positions with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, most recently serving as their Executive Director. He is a veteran of the U.S. Navy and is also a former adjunct professor at Georgetown University and Whitman College.

Sams earned his B.S. in business administration from Concordia University-Portland and holds a master of legal studies in Indigenous Peoples Law from the University of Oklahoma. If confirmed, Sams would become the first Native American to lead NPS.

Stone-Manning Confirmed as BLM Director



On Sep. 30, 2021, Tracy Stone-Manning was confirmed by a Senate vote of 50-45 to be the next Director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Her nomination proved controversial because a friend of hers, in 1989, was involved in tree spiking in Idaho's Clearwater National Forest. At the friend's behest, Stone-Manning wrote an anonymous letter to federal officials, informing them of the tree spiking and warning that "a lot of people could get hurt" if logging were to continue. In a 1993 federal court testimony, Stone-Manning admitted that she had retyped, edited, and mailed the letter. She received prosecutorial immunity in order to testify against her friend, who was found guilty and sentenced to 17 months in prison.

Stone-Manning was born in VA and earned a B.A. in radio, television, and film from the University of Maryland and a M.S. in environmental studies from the University of Montana. From 1999 to 2006, she was the director of the Clark Fork Coalition in Missoula, MT and then worked for Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT) from 2007 to 2012. Stone-Manning served as the director of the MT Department of Environmental Quality and then as chief of staff for MT Governor Steve Bullock between 2013 and 2017. Since 2017, she has worked for the National Wildlife Federation before being nominated by the Biden administration to serve as BLM Director.

BLM manages over 244 million acres, mostly in the western U.S., and is the largest federal land management agency. Unfortunately, over 79 million acres of BLM land is infested with noxious and invasive weeds, yet BLM only spends \$15 million per year to manage invasive species, which equates to a paltry 6 cents per acre! Let's hope the new BLM Director can direct a little more of the agency's \$1.3 billion towards a pro-active integrated weed management plan.

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[Continued]

Federal Agency Leaders (Senate confirmed, unless noted)

USDA Secretary – Tom Vilsack

USDA Deputy Secretary – Jewel Bronaugh

- -USDA Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics (nominated) Chavonda Jacobs-Young
- -USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Director (appointed) Carrie Castille
- -USDA Agriculture Research Service, Administrator -
- -USDA Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment (nominated) Homer L Wilkes
- -US Forest Service, Chief (appointed) Randy Moore

Department of the Interior (DOI) Secretary – Deb Haaland DOI Deputy Secretary- Tommy Beaudreau

- -DOI Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget (nominated) Winnie Stachelberg
- -DOI Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks- Shannon Estenoz
 - -National Park Service (NPS), Director (nominated) Charles F. Sams III
- -US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Director (nominated) Martha Williams
- -DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management (nominated) Laura Daniel-Davis
- -Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Director Tracy Stone-Manning
- -DOI Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Tanya Trujillo
- -US Geological Survey (USGS), Director no nominee
- -Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), Commissioner (nominated) M. Camille Calimlim Touton

Department of Defense, Secretary of the Army - Christine Wormuth

-Army Corps Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works - Michael Connor

EPA Administrator- Michael Regan

EPA Deputy Administrator - Janet McCabe

- -EPA Assistant Administrator for Chemical Safety & Pollution Prevention- Michal Freedhoff
- -EPA Assistant Administrator for Water- Radhika Fox
- -EPA Assistant Administrator for Research and Development (nominated)- Henry Christopher Frey

Council on Environmental Quality, Chair- Brenda Mallory

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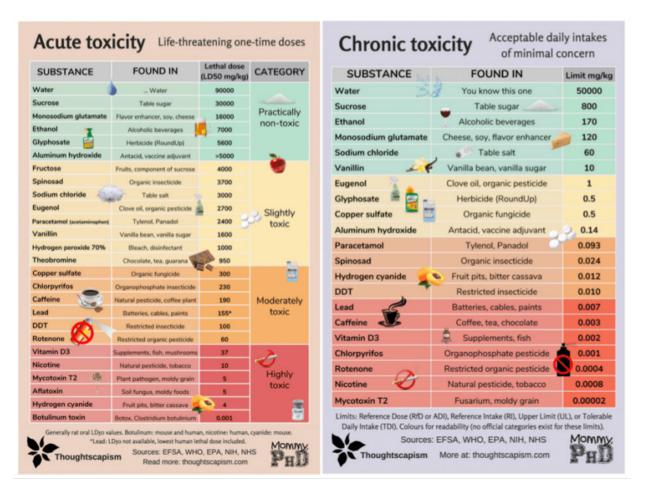


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Infographic: Does Glyphosate Cause Cancer? 18 of 19 Global Regulatory and Chemical Oversight Agencies Say 'no' While One Presents Equivocal Data

By: Genetic Literacy Project. September 13, 2021.

https://geneticliteracyproject.org/2021/09/13/infographic-does-glyphosate-aka-roundup-cause-cause-cause-cancer-18-of-19-globalregulatory-and-chemical-oversight-agencies-say-no-while-one-presents-equivocal-data/



NISAW 2022 is Feb. 28 – Mar. 4

The next National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) will be February 28 – March 4, 2022 and will return to a single weeklong event and "fly-in" to Washington DC. If you have topics or issues of concern, or would like to help plan next year's NISAW, please let me know.

Lee Van Wychen, Ph.D. Executive Director of Science Policy, National and Regional Weed Science Societies Lee.VanWychen@wssa.net, 202-746-4686

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Sustaining Members

The Aquatic Plant Management Society is grateful for our Sustaining Members whose generous annual contributions sponsor our most important core values, especially education and outreach initiatives. Sustaining Membership costs \$500 and includes membership privileges for one designated representative; subscription to the *Journal of Aquatic Plant Management*, APMS newsletters, and access to the <u>APMS Blog</u> and social media content; quarterly issues of <u>Aquatics</u> magazine; recognition as a Sustaining Member in newsletters, the Annual Meeting Program, and on the APMS website. *Thank you all for your support in 2021!*







Incorporated in 1961 as a forum to share water hyacinth control experiences, today APMS and its seven Regional Chapters promote research and outreach to manage all species of aquatic plants and algae.



General Info for Membership, Etc.

The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. is an international organization of scientists, educators, students, commercial pesticide applicators, administrators, and concerned individuals interested in the management and study of aquatic plants and algae. The membership reflects a diversity of federal, state, and local agencies, universities and colleges around the world, corporations, and small businesses.

VISION

The Vision of the Aquatic Plant Management Society is to be the leading international organization for scientific information on aquatic plant and algae management.

MISSION

The Mission of the Aquatic Plant Management Society is to provide a forum for the discovery and dissemination of scientific information that advances aquatic plant and algae management policy and practice.

STATEMENT ON EQUITY, DIVERSITY, & INCLUSION

Creating an atmosphere of inclusion is vital to the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS). Contributions and perspectives from all members, students, event participants, and our local and international communities are important. Diversity includes age, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, color, race, religion, sexual orientation, and diversity of thoughts and ideas. We recognize that embracing and encouraging diversity is critical to fulfilling our mission to 'Provide a forum for the discovery and dissemination of scientific information that advances aquatic plant and algae management policy and practice'. APMS will strive to further cultivate a Society built on mentorship, encouragement, tolerance, and mutual respect, and foster a welcoming environment for all.

To join, visit this link: http://www.apms.org/society/membership/

To renew a membership, login and visit this link: http://www.apms.org/member-login/

Follow us and Learn More:

@APMSociety
@apmsociety
@APMS1961

.....And Join the APMS Group on LinkedIn....