

Vicki Sawicki Landscaping for a Better Tomorrow

In this presentation, I will discuss keys to the identification of some common landscaping plants that are now known to be invasive species, and give recommendations for alternative desirable native plant species. I will have order forms with me for the Mason-Lake Conservation District's native plant sale, and will assist people with plant selection.

Vicki Sawicki is the Program Coordinator for the North County Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (NCCISMA). She has been involved with the study of invasive species since 1998, when she concluded her graduate studies with a thesis on purple loosestrife at the State University of New York at Binghamton. Vicki spent five years as a Biological Technician in Botany with the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, administering invasive species removal and habitat restoration projects on the Huron-Manistee National Forest, before coming to work for NCCISMA. In her current role as NCCISMA Program Coordinator, Vicki works to facilitate the collaboration of numerous partners, including private citizens, governmental entities, non-profit organizations, and private industry, in the fight against invasive species and related restoration projects. NCCISMA addresses invasive species management in the counties of Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Missaukee, Osceola, and Wexford.