

## Volunteers Assist with Invasive Species Control in Madison Parks

- Park staff uses the resources of IPAW (Invasive Plant Association of Wisconsin) and the DNR Bureau of Endangered Resources to keep up to date with invasive plant management issues.
- We have a program that allows volunteers to use herbicides to control invasive plants under the direction of park staff. Volunteers must complete training and pass the State of Wisconsin (DATCP) certification test (Right of Way category) to apply herbicides in Madison Parks. Volunteers pay for the cost of this training. Madison Parks Division supplies the herbicides. Volunteers must follow posting requirements and keep records of applications per City of Madison policy.
- Park staff has a protocol approved by the city risk manager that allows volunteers to use chainsaws for land management purposes on City of Madison parklands. Volunteers must complete a chainsaw safety course that meets the approval of the risk manager. e.g. Forestry Industry Safety and Training Alliance (FISTA). Volunteers must sign a specific waiver release to use chainsaws in the parks. Volunteers supply their own chainsaw and are required to use personal protective equipment (gloves, helmet, eye and ear protection, chaps) while working in the parks. Volunteers receive periodic direction on the projects from park staff.