

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Controlling Invasive Species Through Central Michigan Cisma

Have a pesky plant you are looking to get rid of or identify? Need the right knowledge and tools to get the job done? The Central Michigan Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CM-CISMA) is an excellent resource for you.

The CM-CISMA, located at Chippewa Nature Center (CNC) in Midland, is a state funded cooperative established in early 2019 with the mission of protecting and improving the natural resources, economy and human health in Central Michigan. This is accomplished through collaborative outreach and management of invasive exotic species working with local organizations in the five-county region: Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella and Midland. The cooperative works to make decisions on priority species and locations of invasive species to potentially treat in the future.

Megan Rider serves as the CM-CISMA coordinator. Rider graduated from Saginaw Valley State University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. She began her time at CNC in 2015 as a GIS Intern, and was hired in 2017 as Field Technician. She became the interim Cisma coordinator in September 2018 and the CM-CISMA coordinator in March 2019. As a Midland native and being part of a family-owned farm she has a deep appreciation for the region and is excited to work with organization and landowners who have invasive species related questions or concerns.

There are several local organizations that support the CM-CISMA by having representatives on the Steering Committee. A list of these organizations can be found on our website. "This cooperative is a great opportunity to get organizations in our region working together," shares Tom Lenon, Director of Land and Facilities, CNC. "It's encouraging to be making decisions as a group for the overall benefit of the community."

Contact CM-CISMA at coordinator@cmcisma.org or 989-414-2237 with your invasive species questions. To learn more about the organization and invasive species in the area, visit www.cmcisma.org. Sign up to receive quarterly emails and follow the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cmcisma.

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The Central Michigan CISMA is a cooperative whose mission is to protect and improve the natural resources, economy and human health in Central Michigan through collaborative outreach and management of invasive exotic species. It addresses questions and concerns from the public including plant identification and treatment options. CM-CISMA is located at 400 S. Badour Rd. in Midland, MI, and can be reached at 989-414-2237 or 989-631-0830 from 8 am-5 pm, Monday-Friday. Learn more at www.cmcisma.org.