



#### Issues with KAEAR Model

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- Don't always get AIS

#### Benefits

- · Building capacity
- · Awareness about release behavior
- Generated interest

#### Pet Return Networks

- · Can hobbyist clubs rehome animals?
- · Build capacity within humane societies?

#### Pet Store Employee Training

- Training to assess capability of consumer
- Don't just not sell potentially invasive species, don't sell species likely to be released

#### What about other release pathways?

- · Teachers (online course for WI)
- · Water gardeners

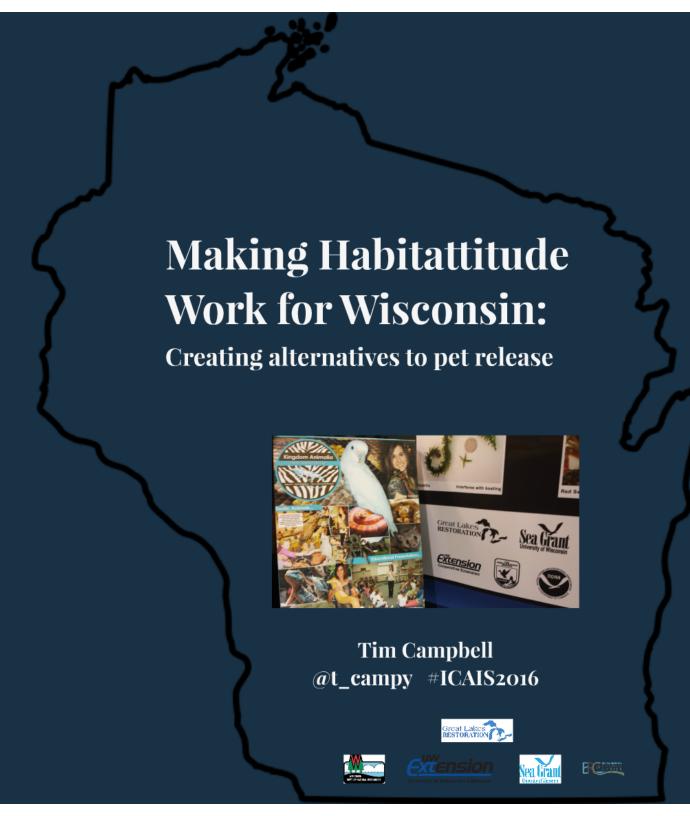


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Keeping potentially invasive species out of trade

- Regulations
- Web crawler

## Pre-consumer



# Consumer







# It Happens







Joe Hennessey with a giant snakehead (Channa micropettes) caught in a Wisconsin river, September 4, 2003, undoubtedly after being released by an aquarium enthusiast. Fortunately, this species will not survive the winter (see fig. 6). Photo by Mike Sorge, Wisconsin Department of Naturai Resources, Bureau of Pisheries Management and Habitat Protection.











# Habitattitude...

DO NOT RELEASE FISH AND AQUATIC PLANTS

www.Habitattitude.net

- Inspect plant orders and remove seeds, other plant fragments, snails, and fish.
- Give unwanted pets and study specimens to a school, aquarium, or zoo.
- Dispose of aquatic plants in the trash.
- Contact a retailer for possible returns or a veterinarian for guidance on humane disposal of animals.



DO NOT RELEASE INTO THE ENVIRONMENT























# Non-Native Species in Aquariums and Water Gardens: Issues, New Laws, and Prevention Programs

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are a problem with wide ranging ecological and economic consequences. It is estimated that aquatic invasive species cost the U.S. economy \$7.5 billion each year, and that 50% of all endangered or threatened species are listed as such due to the adverse impacts of invasive species. Unfortunately, once an invasive organism is established it is nearly impossible to eradicate. As saying goes, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. One of the best places to apply this ounce of prevention is at invasion pathways so that invaders aren't introduced in the first place.

Intentional release of unwanted aquarium pets is one pathway for non-native species into our environment. The red swamp crayfish is one example of an invader that was likely introduced into Wisconsin via aquarium release. Wisconsin has spent more than \$400,000 controlling this invader, and recently received \$287,000 in federal funding for further efforts to eradicate this destructive invader.

To address this pathway, the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute in partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and UW-Extension invite you to a workshop on June 19<sup>th</sup> at the UW-Fond du Lac campus where you can learn more about the AIS issue, laws regarding aquarium species, and a program that is being promoted to help reduce the probability of new introductions and invasions from released pets and aquatic plants. Additionally, we are looking to draw upon your knowledge and expertise to understand how pet owners deal with unwanted aquarium pets, identify current alternatives to release, and to develop more effective alternatives to release.

#### Location

The workshop will be held in room A216 on the UW-Fond du Lac campus. For maps and directions visit:

http://www.fdl.uwc.edu/campus map.html



Red Swamp Crayfish Photo: Chris Hamerla

#### **RSVP**

Please contact Tim Campbell (timothy.campbell@uwc.edu or 920- 683-4697) by 6/8 if you plan on attending this workshop

Date: Tuesday, June 19th

Cost: Free

#### **Tentative Agenda**

09:30-10:00	Registration
10:00-10:15	Welcome and introductions
10:15-10:45	The invasive species issue
10:45-11:15	Invasive species: Organisms in trade & the pet industry
11:15-12:00	NR40 & what it means for organisms in your business
12:00-01:00	Lunch (provided)
01:00-01:30	The Habitattitude Campaign: What it is and successes
01:30-02:00	Best Management Practices
BREAK	
02:20-03:15	Discussion – Current options for pet returns and new
	alternatives to release
03:15-03:30	Conclusions, Future Directions
03:30	Adjourn





- No space
- No mone
- No eyner



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# Habitattitude TM PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT DO NOT RELEASE FISH AND AQUATIC PLANTS

PIJAC . U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE . SEA GRANT



- No space
- No money
- No expertise
- Not my problem



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Issues with KA

## Responsible Pet Ownership

- Right pet for right person
- Trained staff to assess
- Offer noninvasive pets
- Avoid commonly released pets
  - Big & small stores have their strengths



Consumer thinks about getting a pet

Consumer visits pet store

Consumer gets pet

Consumer unable to care for pet





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## Alternatives to Release

- Trade with a friend/hobbyist
- Return to store
- Take to a rescue
  - Need to build capacity for these
- Euthanasia probably isn't an option for most pets

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MAS Full-Day Auctions Buyer Information Seller Information Prohibited Species "Buy It Now" Program Surrender Program

# **Surrender Program**

Some auctions will be tied to a state-level *Surrender* program, in association with *Habitattitude*. The purpose is to allow anyone with a fish that is not wanted an outlet to "surrender" the fish so that MAS can find it a new home. (...not wanted for any reason including too big or too aggressive.) The aquarium world agrees that this is the responsible approach as opposed to releasing captive fish into the local ponds or streams.

Here is how it works...

If the auction is designated as a "Surrender" event, just bring the fish to the auction (preferrable in a bag, but all water-holding containers such as a bucket are acceptable). The fish should be dropped off within an hour of the posted start time for the auction.

That is all you need to do. Being that a hundred or so aquarists will be at this event, the fish will first be offered publically to anyone who wants it. If for whatever reason the fish cannot be given away, MAS will responsibly handle the fish.

See this article discussing the the first Surrender event.



## A NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION

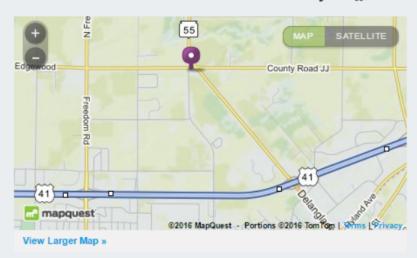
HOME ABOUT MEETINGS AUCTION FRAG SWAP MEMBERSHIP BAP LIBRARY USEFUL INFORMATION LINKS

# **Auction**

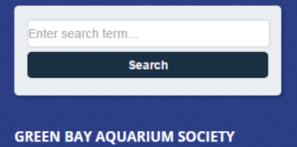
## **Next Auction:**

Fall 2016 (TBA)

NEW LOCATION! Starlite Club, W2091 County Rd. JJ, Kaukauna, WI 54130



Doors open at 9:00 am. Auction starts at 10:30 am.







webmaster@gbasonline.org



# Joint GBAS/KAEAR Effort

- Rehome both fish & other unwanted pets
- Surrender on a continuous, rather than event, basis
- Promote as a resource to businesses



BIOTICS
SYMPOSIUM

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Tim Campbell tim.campbell@wisc.edu @t\_campy #ICAIS2016

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