Alberta Government

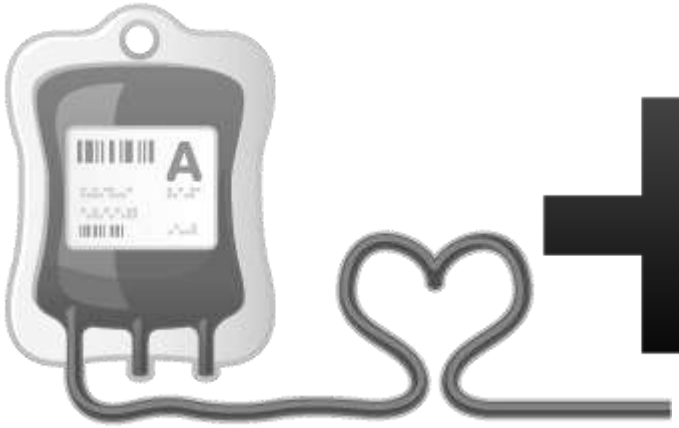
Ornamentals Behaving Badly

(ICAIS)

Wednesday April 13 2016

Winnipeg, MB

People don’t mean to be bad……



The “Suspects”

Alberta

Part of the problem - Terminology

ALIEN

Exotic

Non-native

W

E

E

D

Naturalized

INVASIVE

PLANT

Part of the solution – People's attention

People want plants that uphold the sustainable, ecologically responsible lifestyle that, as consumers, they want….and are willing to PAY for it.

Alberta

Photos cbc.ca & freestuffpage.com

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Alberta

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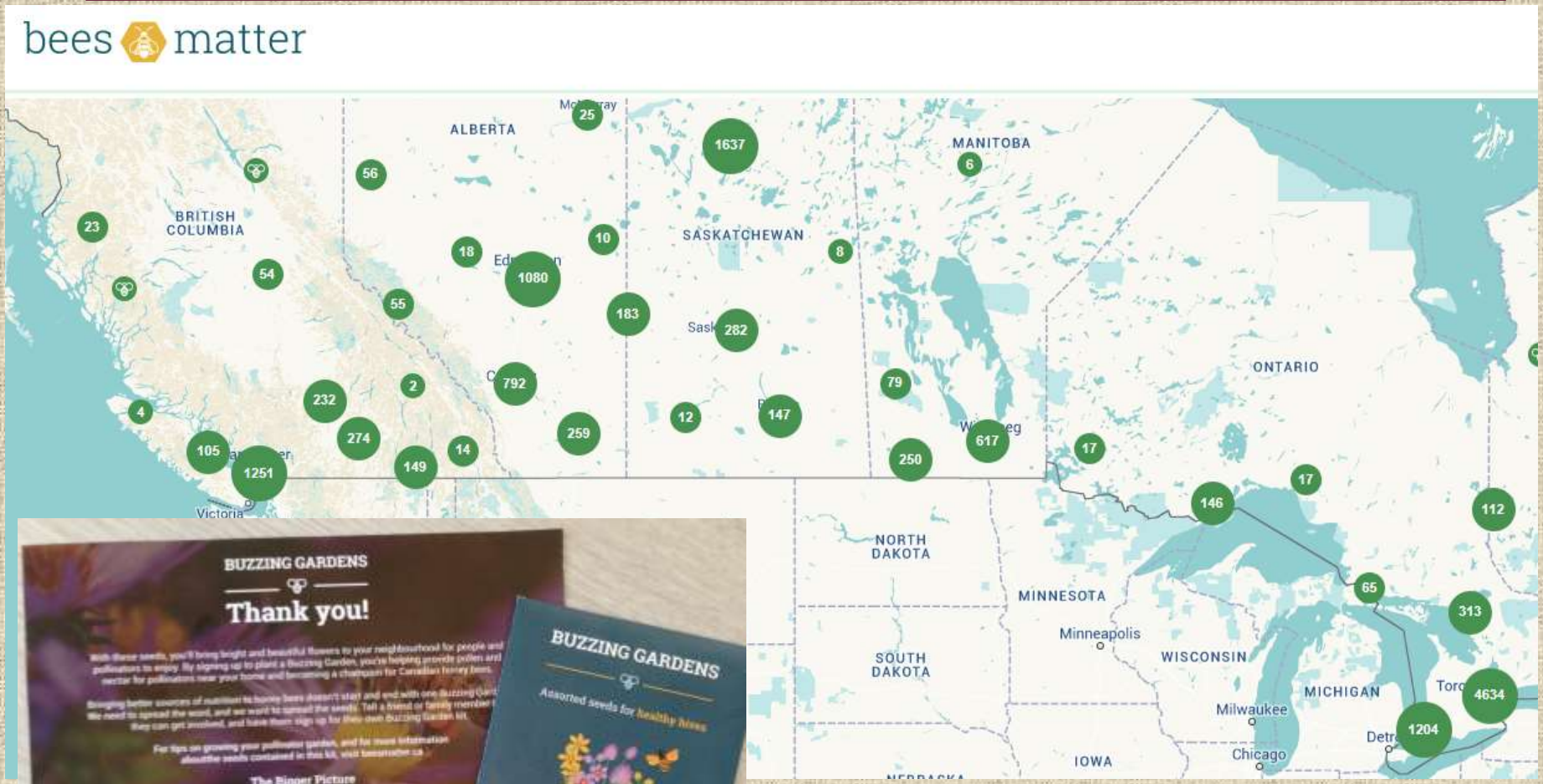
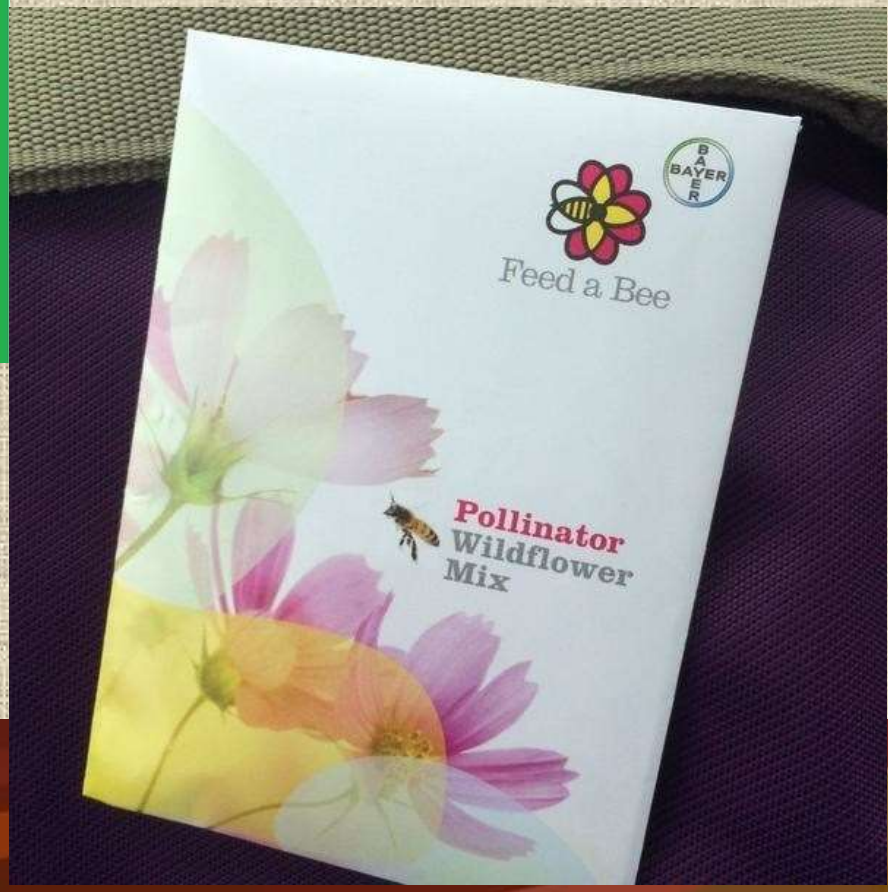


Part of the solution – People's attention



WHAT'S THE HARM IN PLANTING INVASIVE SPECIES IN MY BACKYARD?

The HARM

When people purchase invasive plants it sends a positive signal back up the supply chain to produce MORE.

CASE STUDY: FLOWERING RUSH IN ALBERTA

Alberta

Online Distribution

Pond Plants 'R' Us

FedEx Ground

Shipping is a Flat Rate $11.99
Free Shipping on orders over $99

Home | Water Lilies | Floating Plants | Bog Plants | Submerged Plants | Coi

Home / Flowering Rush

Double click on above image to view full picture

MORE VIEWS

Flowering Rush

Email to a Friend
Be the first to review this product

Availability: In stock

$7.95

Qty: 1 Add to Cart Add to Wishlist Add to Compare

Quick Overview

The 3' green stalks are topped with many small delicate pink flowers throughout the summer months. Flowering Rush is a very reliable plant and very winter hardy.

THIS PLANT CANNOT BE SHIPPED TO INDIANA, MINNESOTA, OREGON, WASHINGTON, WISCONSIN - Will be substituted or cancelled

Flowering Rush (Butomus umbellatus) is restricted in CT, IN, MN, SD, WI, ID, MI, MT, NH, OR, VT, WA - Never release these plants into public lakes or waterways. Know your state laws.

Pond Products & Supplies For Water Gardens

Sign In

Flowering Rush Pond Plant

Category: Store > Plants for Ponds > Flowering Marginal Pond Plants

SKU PL308

In stock

C$8.99

Like Share 0

Additional Xpress Shipping Charge

- Please select 1 option per plant order
- Ontario, Quebec (+C$5.99)
- BC, NF, NT,NU, PE, YK (+C$25.99)
- AB, MB, NB, NS, SK (+C$21.99)

Qty 1

Add to Bag

Share

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Flowering Rush Weedy Traits

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Vigorous Aquatic Perennial

Rhizome fragments have:

Large carbohydarte reserves, Buoyancy, and Preformed Roots

Max depth reported is 4.5 meters

Displaces Native Vegetation

Flowering Rush Locations

Alberta

Found in Canada

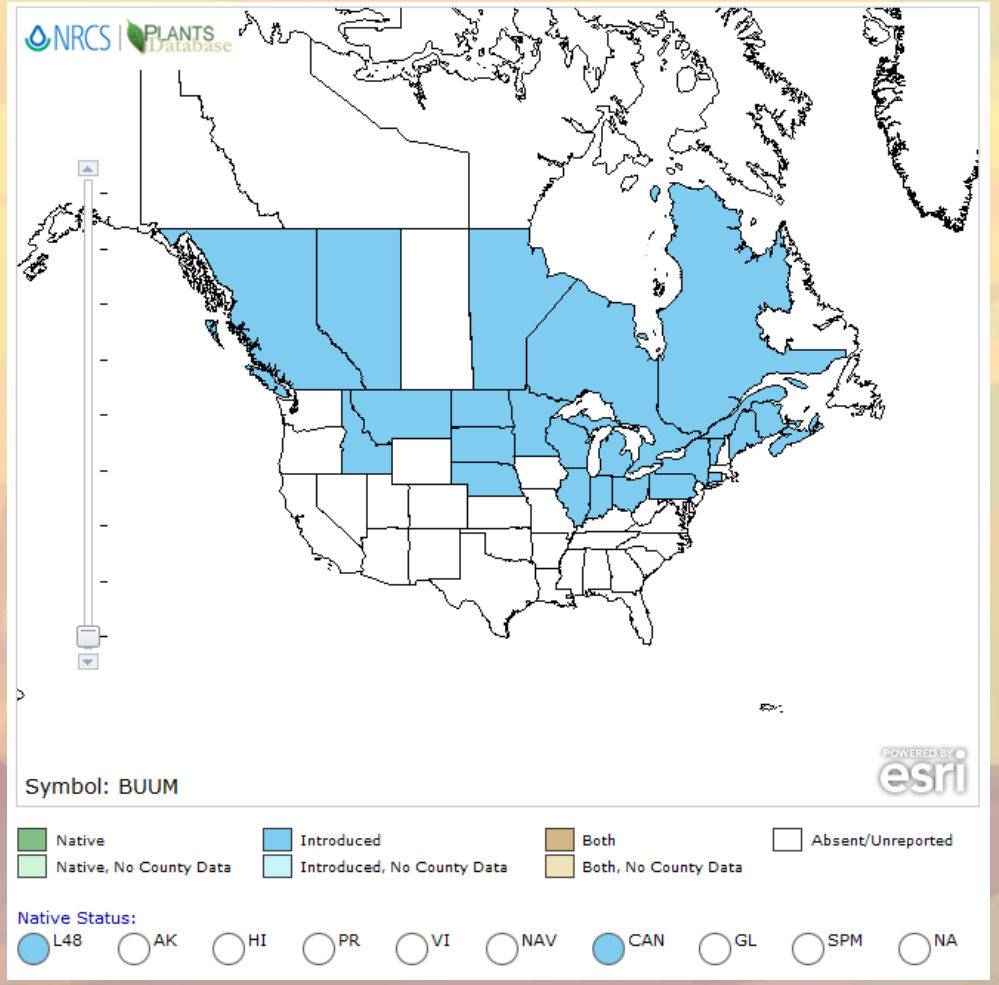
- Found along the St. Lawrence River in Quebec in 1897
- Likely introduced from Europe as an **ORNAMENTAL**

Found in Alberta

- June 30 1990 first collection from Sturgeon River
- Greenhouses have stocked flowering rush in 1985 and <u>many more</u> since then

Current Distribution

1000's of acres are predicted in the Pacific Northwest region



Alberta Now

Found in Lakes

– Chestermere Lake & Lake Isle

Alberta Now

Found in Rivers – Sturgeon River & Bow River

Alberta Now

Found in a Creek – Buffalo Creek

Photo courtesy of Red Deer County

Alberta Now

Found in Drainage Ponds – Innisfail & Sherwood Park

Photo courtesy of Red Deer County

Photo courtesy of Laura Hammer

Alberta Now

Found in Ponds – Calgary & Olds

Alberta Now

Found in an Irrigation District – Headwaters of Western Irrigation District

Flowering Rush Control Attempts

Headwaters to Western Irrigation District

Dredging

Photos courtesy of Rocky View County

Chestermere Lake

Weed Harvesting

Photo courtesy of Rocky View County

Innisfail – Buffalo Creek

Clipping Heads

Photos courtesy of Red Deer County

Innisfail – Buffalo Creek

Steaming

Photos courtesy of Red Deer County

Cutting & Pulling By Hand

Photos courtesy of Lutheran Camp, Terry Rendflesh

Herbicides

Photos courtesy of Red Deer County

Prevention

Alberta

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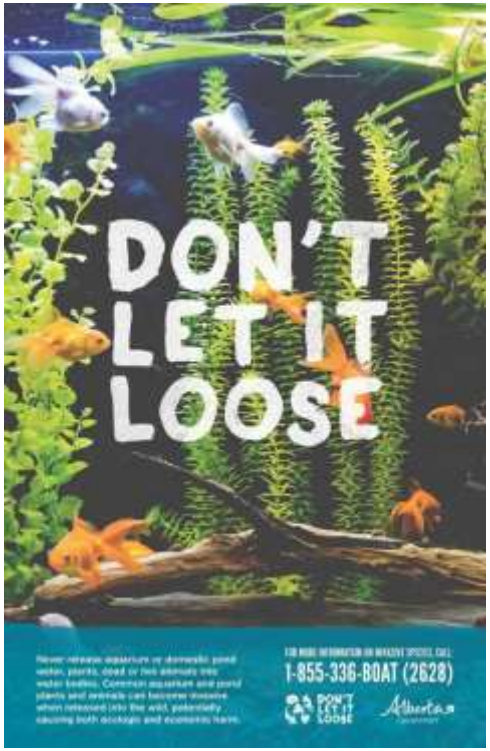
Compare Products

items to compare.

Prevention programs are KEY

grow me instead



PLVNT RiGHT

Prevention programs are KEY

- It's about **actionable awareness**
- **Engagement** of invasive plant skeptics and businesses feeling aggravated by conservation efforts
- Boils down to **values** – personal and business values

Questions?

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Alberta Weed Monitoring Network