REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: October 21, 2026

SUBJECT: Invasive Species in Henderson County

PRESENTER: Steve Pettis, Cooperative Extension

ATTACHMENTS: Yes
1. Presentation

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Steve Pettis, Commercial and Consumer Horticulture Agent for Cooperative Extension will provide the Board with a presentation on invasive species in Henderson County, including the Joro spider.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

No action required, for information only.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

No action required, for information only.

Invasive Species

Non-native species of plants, animals and other organisms that cause economic, environmental or human health concerns

- Displace native species
- Biodiversity suffers
- Alters animal habitat – food source
- Fuel for fires
- Quality of wetlands – flooding
- Changes flora & fauna of under-story habitats



USDA Definitions

Exotic – from another country, not necessarily a problem (example – Formosan azalea, crape myrtle, Japanese maple, holly, etc.)



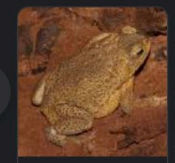
Invasive – displaces native plants (example – Chinese privet, English ivy, kudzu)

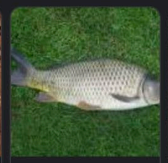


Noxious – devastates whole ecosystems (example – purple loosestrife); federal government required to act

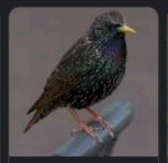


Biological Species / invasive / United States


Cane toad


Common carp


Zebra mussel

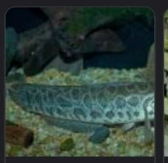

Common starling

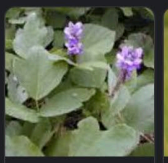

Burmese python

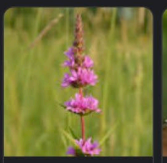

Asian long-horned beetle

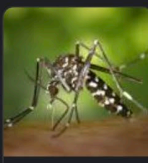

Coypu

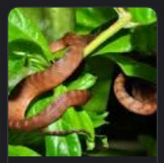

European green crab

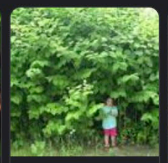

Northern snakehead

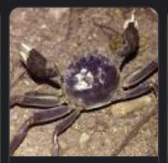

Pueraria montana

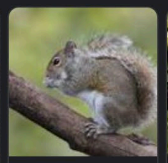

Purple loosestrife

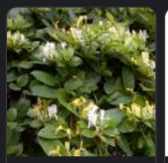

Asian tiger mosquito


Brown tree snake

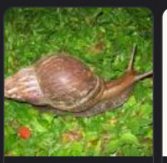

Japanese knotweed

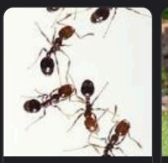

Chinese mitten crab

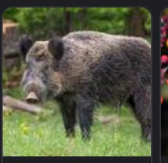

Eastern gray squirrel

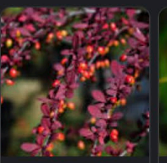

Japanese honeysuckle


Emerald ash borer


Giant African Snail

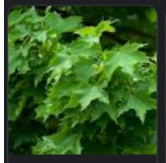

Red imported fire ant

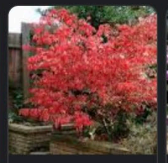

Wild boar

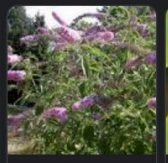

Japanese barberry

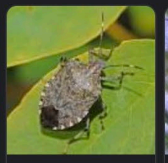

Leafy spurge

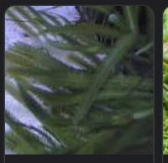

Giant reed

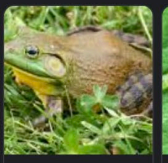

Norway maple

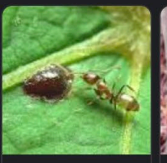

Burning bush

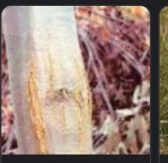

Summer lilac

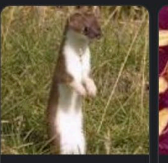

Brown marmorated stink bug


Caulerpa taxifolia


American bullfrog

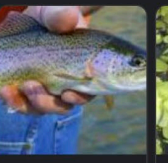

Argentine ant

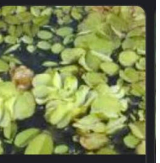

Chestnut blight

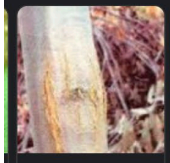

Stoat

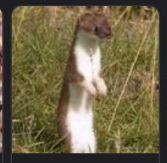
Chestnut blight


Formosan subterranean termite

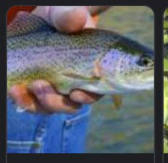

Rainbow trout


Giant salvinia


Chestnut blight


Stoat


Formosan subterranean termite


Rainbow trout

Giant salvinia

Largemouth bass

Electric ant

Brown rat

Spotted knapweed

Musk thistle

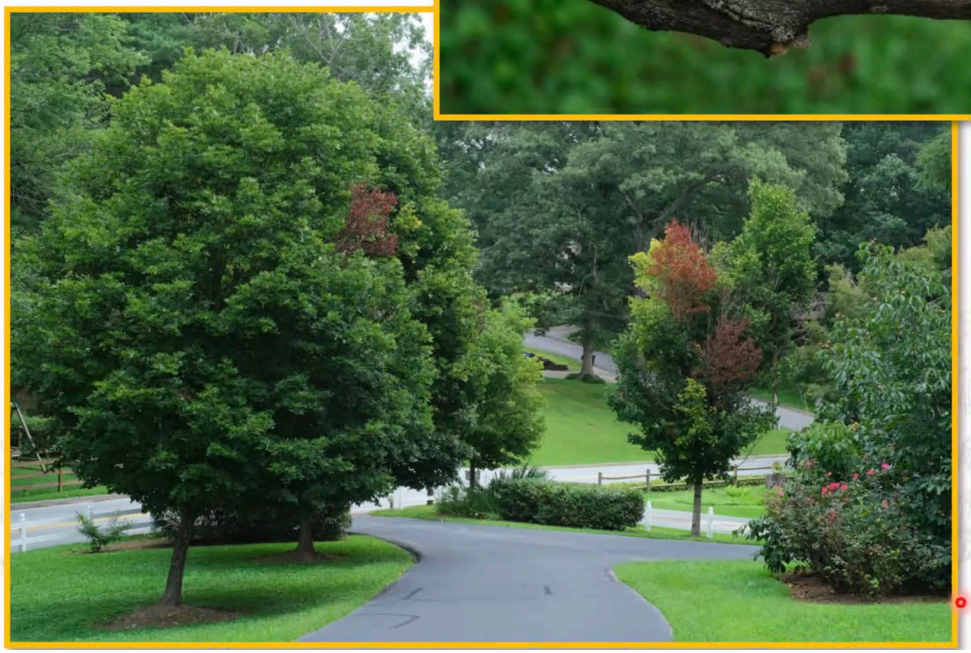
Giant hogweed

Gypsy Moth

NEW DISEASE IN TREES AND SHRUBS!!!

Maple near Pisgah Forest, NC August 8, 2023







Animals - European pigs



Armadillos


YouTube
wildlife haywood knoll nc
Armadillo behind our home in Haywood Knolls!
1,842 views • Aug 13, 2021
56
0
SHARE
SAVE
All
From your search
Wildlife
Related
Water hole wildlife behind our

Fireants





Invasive Plants









Joro Spider or
Golden Orb Weaver









Developing an invasive organism control plan

- Conduct a non-native invasive plant inventory which may include GIS mapping
- Develop a multi-year strategic management plan
- Begin treatment in phases, basing control approach on treatment phase and invasive plant species
- Restore native plant species if little or no natural seed bank is present.
- Educate public how to control invasive species on their own property

Questions?

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