

Phragmites

Invasive Phragmites (*Phragmites*) take hold across County and private wetlands, roadside ditches, and lowland fields. When they take root, they spread and outcompete native vegetation that are important to wetland ecosystems. Phragmites (*Phragmites*) hinders wetland ecological functions, reduces wildlife habitat, impedes drainage, reduces native vegetation communities, and impedes sightlines on roadside colonies.

Invasive Phragmites (*Phragmites*) is present throughout Southern Ontario and takes hold in roadside ditches, wetlands, beaches, and abandoned fields. It spreads rapidly and outcompetes native species by releasing toxins from its roots to hinder the growth of surrounding plants. It is difficult to deal with as its roots grow deep, allowing it to survive wherever it takes root.

Size of Established Invasive Phragmites (*Phragmites*) in comparison to adults.



Photo by Invasive Species Centre, Ontario Phragmites Action Program

A St. Lawrence River Institute staff member holding an Invasive Phragmites (*Phragmites*) seedhead.



Photo by Stephany Hildebrand/River Institute

Image of roadside Invasive Phragmites (*Phragmites*).



Photo by Town of Ajax

More Information

[Ontario Phragmites Fact Sheet](#)

[Invading Species Awareness Program with Guides and Best Management Practices](#)



[Ontario Phragmites Action Program Website](#)