



CONTINUING EDUCATION WEBINAR SERIES

Date: Monday, May 5, 2014

Time: 12-1pm

Location: http://connect.ag.vt.edu/vmn_at5/

Wavyleaf Grass: A Looming Threat to Forests in Virginia, Maryland, and Beyond...

Presented by: Kevin Heffernan and Vanessa Beauchamp

*Currently found only in Virginia and Maryland, wavyleaf grass (*Oplismenus hirtellus* ssp. *undulatifolius*) is an aggressive introduced invader of forest groundlayer, where it can carpet over other herbaceous species and prevent growth of woody species. This webinar will teach you more about wavyleaf impacts, train you to recognize wavyleaf, and empower you with tools to help land managers and researcher map and report any occurrence you may discover. Wavyleaf survey data will play a vital role in management actions aimed at stopping its spread in Virginia and Maryland and preventing its establishment in other states.*

Kevin Heffernan is a stewardship biologist for the Virginia Natural Heritage Program. A graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University, he has worked for Natural Heritage since 1993. During this time he has mapped many acres of *Phragmites*, participated in many prescribed fires, searched for rare plants, and written many technical documents and educational publications on invasive plants in Virginia. He currently serves as chairman of the Virginia Invasive Species Advisory Committee, which recently completed the state invasive species management plan for the Virginia Invasive Species Working Group.

Vanessa Beauchamp is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Towson University. Her research focuses on disturbance ecology, forest succession, restoration, and the impacts of invasive plant species. She received a BS in Biology from University of California, Irvine and a PhD in Plant Biology from Arizona State University.