



Phragmites Control

Wetland and Upland Invasive Species Management

Phragmites australis, known as Phragmites or common reed, is a non-native, invasive plant that dominates the land by out-competing surrounding native vegetation. The spread of invasive species is often the result of human activity and management can be extremely difficult. When it comes to Phragmites, SOLitude Lake Management® offers an integrated management strategy that incorporates herbicide applications and mechanical techniques allowing us to gain control of Phragmites and restore the native habitat.

4 Steps to Controlling Invasive Phragmites

Controlling Phragmites is a multi-year endeavor. In order to gain control of these pesky invaders, four management steps are needed to achieve more than 95% control and the re-establishment of native plants.

1 Assessment of the Infestation
By evaluating the extent of growth, native plant assemblage and general terrain, our team can devise a treatment plan that best meets the needs of the native environment. SOLitude is also capable of preparing any necessary permit applications, where required.

2 Herbicide Application
Herbicide treatments, often the most effective means of achieving long-term eradication, are area-specific based off your property's unique characteristics. By employing our diverse fleet of low-ground pressure vehicles, many of the remote and sensitive areas of a wetland can be accessed. While treatment during the fall is often preferred and most effective, treatment can be performed from mid-to-late June through October.

3 Physical Removal
Mechanical removal techniques are often used in conjunction with herbicide treatments. Removal of the dead stalks can be accomplished by cutting, burning and hand-pulling.

4 Prevention and Protection
Ongoing monitoring is an important component to an effective invasive species management program. Regularly inspecting your site allows us to catch and resolve invasions before they spread, saving you the expense of another full-scale treatment in the years to come.





Where Do Phragmites Come From and How Do They Spread?

Originally native to Europe and Asia, Phragmites are persistent invasive colonizers of wetland habitats across the U.S. Phragmites spread naturally through three vectors; by seed, rhizome fragmentation and the use of stolons. Seeds can be spread by humans, wind, water, and wildlife as well as by boats, cars and construction vehicles. Rhizomes are the underground root structures of the plant and stolons allows Phragmites' stems to grow laterally, making it easy for the plants to quickly take over large areas.

Advanced Technology And Equipment

- SOLitude is equipped with the latest technology in GPS mapping. Our experts provide detailed maps and aerial photography to our customers to help determine the treatment area, evaluate overall costs and track the site throughout the course of the management program.
- Our diverse and advanced equipment allows us to reach and treat all areas of invasion no matter how remote or delicate the environment may be.
- The cutting-edge equipment we utilize when managing wetland and upland areas includes a fleet of applicator boats, low ground pressure amphibious track vehicles and aerial application vehicles.



Be Patient! Ongoing Management Takes Time

Despite advanced technology and equipment, controlling Phragmites takes time. A successful control plan can take up to five years of annual management. An often overlooked step of an ongoing management program is prevention. Having your site inspected regularly will allow nuisance species to be identified early on, giving us the opportunity to eliminate them before they spread. Regular inspections also allow any regrowth to be identified and addressed.