Notice: The Municipality of Morris-Turnberry has engaged the services of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority for the destruction of Phragmites along Municipal Road Allowances using Glyphosate. The program is expected to commence September 6, 2019 for approximately 1 week.

Effects of Invasive Phragmites

- **Loss of biodiversity and species richness**: Invasive Phragmites causes a decrease in biodiversity by creating monoculture stands. Phragmites stands crowd out native vegetation and hinder native wildlife from using the area, resulting in a decrease in both plant and animal biodiversity.

- **Loss of habitat**: Monoculture Phragmites stands result in a decrease in available natural habitat and food supply for various wildlife species, which may include Species at Risk. Invasive Phragmites stalks are rigid and tough, and do not allow for wildlife to easily navigate through or nest in a stand.

- **Changes in hydrology**: Invasive Phragmites displays very high metabolic rates, which can lead to changes in the water cycles of a system. Monoculture stands of invasive Phragmites have the ability to lower water levels, as water is transpired at a faster rate than it would be in an area of native vegetation.

- **Changes in nutrient cycling**: Invasive Phragmites stalks are made of a very inflexible structural material which breaks down very slowly. This slows the release of nutrients and leaves a high proportion of recalcitrant biomass (carbon) in the standing dead stalks.

- **Increased fire hazards**: A stand of invasive Phragmites is composed of a high percentage of dead stalks, with a lower percentage of live growth. Dead stalks are dry and combustible, increasing the risk of fires.

- **Economic and social impacts**: Invasive species such as Phragmites can have many negative effects on economic and social issues. Effects on agriculture and crops can lead to economic losses, while monoculture stands can affect property values, and raise aesthetic concerns.

Locations will be posted with signs following application of herbicide.

For more information: [https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Phragmites_BMP_FINAL.pdf](https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Phragmites_BMP_FINAL.pdf)

If any questions, contact Mike Alcock at the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry at 519-887-6137 Ext. 227 or email malcock@morristurnberry.ca