

VAN BUREN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NEWS RELEASE

BETTER HIGHWAYS: SAVE LIVES, SAVE TIME, SAVE MONEY

Lawrence, Michigan		2026-10	
DATE:	July 28, 2026	CONTACT:	Greg Brucks, Operations Director Van Buren County Road Commission 325 W. James Street, Post Office Box 156 Lawrence, Michigan 49064 PHONE: (269) 674-8011, Extension 227
RELEASE:	Immediately		

INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT IN THE ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY

In partnership with the SWxSW Corner Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) Team of the Van Buren Conservation District, the Van Buren County Road Commission is continuing efforts to manage invasive plant species within county road rights-of-way.

Over the past several years, the CISMA Team has treated populations of invasive Phragmites and Japanese knotweed through targeted herbicide applications. This year, Japanese stiltgrass, another invasive species, was identified within Van Buren County road rights-of-way and has been added to the treatment program. Herbicide applications targeting these three invasive species are scheduled to begin around August 17th and may continue through the first hard frost of the season, depending on weather and site conditions.

Invasive species such as Japanese knotweed, Phragmites, and Japanese stiltgrass spread aggressively and can displace native vegetation, and impacting the health of natural areas. Road rights-of-way can serve as corridors for the spread of these species, making early detection and management important components of long-term control efforts.

For more information on invasive species or this treatment, please contact CISMA Team Invasive Species Technician, Jena Johnson, at 269-366-7287.

VAN BUREN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

BW/jb