
Handout 1: Possibilities

Awareness and understanding: You and your community

- Conduct a *community awareness survey* on exotic invasive plant species.
- Conduct a *public awareness campaign* on the threats of exotic invasive species.
- Write an article for the school newspaper to tell others about exotic invasive plant species.
- Write a newspaper column for a local paper to educate members of the community about exotic invasive plant species.
- Produce public service announcements about exotic invasive plant species and distribute them to the media.
- Develop and distribute an invasive species awareness brochure.
- Sponsor an exotic invasive plant species seminar for both students and the community. Topics could include exotic invasive plants, endangered plant species, sources of exotic invasives (e.g., local nurseries and mail order catalogs), and environmentally sound alternatives to harmful practices.

Habitat restoration

- Hold a school native plant species Arbor Day planting. Invite local officials.
- Replant river or creek banks with native plants to anchor the soil and provide wildlife habitat.
- Plant a native species garden on your school grounds to attract native wildlife, birds, and butterflies.
- Adopt an area of your school's playground, and then develop a plan to improve it with native plant species.
- Participate in a native plant habitat restoration project sponsored by your local community.
- Find old and new aerial photographs of a habitat near where you live and compare them. Find out if exotic invasive plants threaten sensitive habitats in your area.

Source:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Endangered Species, Kids' Corner, How Kids Can Help, online at http://www.fws.gov/endangered/kids/resources/how_help.html#Habitat