

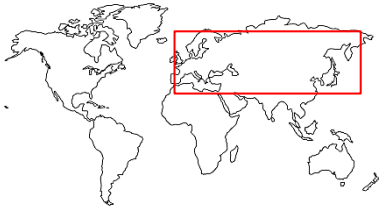
Purple loosestrife

Lythrum salicaria

VERY INVASIVE – established in the Arrowhead

Invasive habitat: wetland areas, wet ditches, marshes, shorelines, streams, wet ground.

Native range: Europe and Asia.



Established in the Arrowhead



IDENTIFICATION



Growth form: 3-6' tall perennial with an angular semi-woody stem. Large woody taproot with fibrous rhizomes.



Flowers: numerous long spikes of ½" to ¾" purple flowers. Blooms July-Sept.



Leaves: smooth-edged, opposite, linear, and sessile.



Seeds: spreads mainly by seed, but also vegetatively by root or stem fragments. Has a large seedbank.

CONTROL



Manual: pulling can be effective, but root fragments will resprout if left.



Chemical: 2,4-D, glyphosate, triclopyr, imazapyr and aminocyclopyrachlor are effective.



Prescribed fire: typically grows in very wet areas and burning may not be appropriate.



Biological: two leaf eating beetles (*Galerucella pusilla* and *G. calmariensis*) are approved.



Mechanical: typically grows in very wet areas, making mowing difficult.



Cultural: do not plant this in gardens and replace existing areas with native vegetation.