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HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S AUGUST 11 "TUESDAY TALK"
REVIEWS EFFORTS TO CONTROL INVASIVE PLANTS

JULY 31, 2015 -- The ongoing battle against invasive plant species will highlight Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society's next "Tuesday Talk" on August 11 in the Old School House History Center, 130 Center Street, Douglas. The one-hour program begins when the school bell rings at 11 a.m. Admission is free, public attendance is invited and audience participation is welcomed.

Presenter Doug Wright, Conservation Education Manager for the Outdoor Discovery Center/Macatawa Greenway (ODCMG), will show and tell how to identify troublesome plants, how they got here, what can be done to control them and why that's important.

The talk will focus on Phragmites, an impenetrable grass-like plant with tall plumes that has taken over much of the Kalamazoo River's north bank between the I-196 and Blue Star bridges, and is quickly spreading downriver along the residential shoreline, Tallmadge Woods, Old Harbor Natural Area and Basin.

Wright also airs a case study covering how the natural appetites of a beetle are being used to control the invasive aquatic plant Purple Loosestrife, and discusses Japanese Knotweed, Reed Canary Grass and Garlic Mustard.

ODCMG, headquartered in a preserve at 56th St. and 142nd Ave., is a non-profit education and conservation organization that connects people with nature through outdoor education for the benefit of wildlife and the conservation of the natural world. For more information, visit www.outdoordiscovery.org

A summertime tradition since 1996, "Tuesday Talks" present entertaining and informative insights into our community life weekly throughout July and August. This talk is sponsored by Brent Birkholz and his Harbor Duck Adventures Co.

For more information about the Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society, its Museum and Old School House History Center, or its activities planned for 2015, visit www.sdhistoricalsociety.org.

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Doug Wright sprays Phragmites along the Kalamazoo River bank, to control one of the invasive species he'll discuss at the Historical Society "Tuesday Talk" on August 11.