

6165 Murray Place  
Halifax, NS B3H 1R9

June 24, 2016

To: Halifax West Regional Council (via clerks@halifax.ca)  
Re: *Rosa multiflora* in Point Pleasant Park

I am the resident who removed a large clump of *R. multiflora* by the entrance to point Pleasant Park (as cited in Item 16.2 for the HWCC meeting of June 28, 2016). I walk the park regularly and have been reporting new occurrence of invasive plants. Park staff responded a couple of years ago to my report of *R. multiflora* at one location, but have not been responsive to a couple of other reports.

I reported these occurrences because I view the PPP Management Plan as a very well considered plan and in many ways a model for managing park vegetation, and I wanted to support the execution of the plan which includes strategies for dealing with exotic and invasive species. With the recent removal of the PPP website (which was superb in my view), and somewhat hazy lines of communication for reporting such things, I decided to report my recent observations on *R. multiflora* to Wayne Mason as a member of the PPP Advisory Committee and also as the Councilor for my district.

Today, I parked my car in the parking lot at Frog Pond to meet a friend and while waiting there walked on the path to the pond and noted *R. multiflora* climbing over the vegetation. A photo is enclosed. This has happened within the last 3 years, so it gives some indication of what is likely to occur in PPP if it is not checked now. It will grow over a lot of the edge vegetation, setting that back and certainly detracting from the goal stated in the PPP management plan of fostering a native Acadian forest.

It would take a lot of effort to remove *R. multiflora* at Frog Pond now, and for all intents and purposes, that is impractical. However, we have the option right now of keeping it under control in PPP if action is taken over the summer to identify sites of occurrence and at least cutting back the vegetation. I am prepared and could likely enlist a few volunteers to survey all trails for sites of *R. multiflora* and GPS them. Then it might be a matter of 1 or 2 days work for park personnel to cut the plants back so they do not produce fruit. In the process, the feasibility of longer term control could be assessed.

Longer term control would involve (1) treating current sites to kill rootstocks by digging them out &/or glyphosate treatment; (2) in the future, monitoring the roads and trails for newly establish plants and removing those; (3) follow-up on all treated sites over several years. The costs of such actions would be quite low if I am correct in thinking that there are perhaps only a dozen or so plants right now, however,

they will increase exponentially if current plants allowed to fruit, as birds will distribute them widely over the park.

So I see it as a simple choice that is feasible now, but likely not in another year or two at the most. Surveying trails and roads for *R. multiflora* and cutting back those plants during the summer of 2016 would keep the options open and allow a more critical assessment of the current occurrence of *R. multiflora*.

I hope that you can give this matter due consideration.

Respectfully,

*David Patriquin*

David Patriquin  
Prof. of Biology (retired)  
Dalhousie University

LINKS TO SOME PERTINENT INFORMATION

**N.Y. Invasive Species Information: Multiflora Rose**

[http://www.nyis.info/index.php?action=invasive\\_detail&id=33](http://www.nyis.info/index.php?action=invasive_detail&id=33)

Description of the species, its impacts and how to control it.

**Halifax: Invasive species: Multiflora Rose**

<https://www.halifax.ca/energy-environment/environment/InvasiveSpecies.php#Multiflora>

**Clean Annapolis River Project (CARP): CARP Factsheet**

**INVASIVE ALIEN PLANT: The Bird Buffet**

[http://www.annapolisriver.ca/downloads/IAS\\_rosa.pdf](http://www.annapolisriver.ca/downloads/IAS_rosa.pdf)



*Rosa mutliflora* by Frog pond June 24, 2016