

# GIANT HOGWEED PROGRAM 2022 ANNUAL SUMMARY

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Lands and Forests

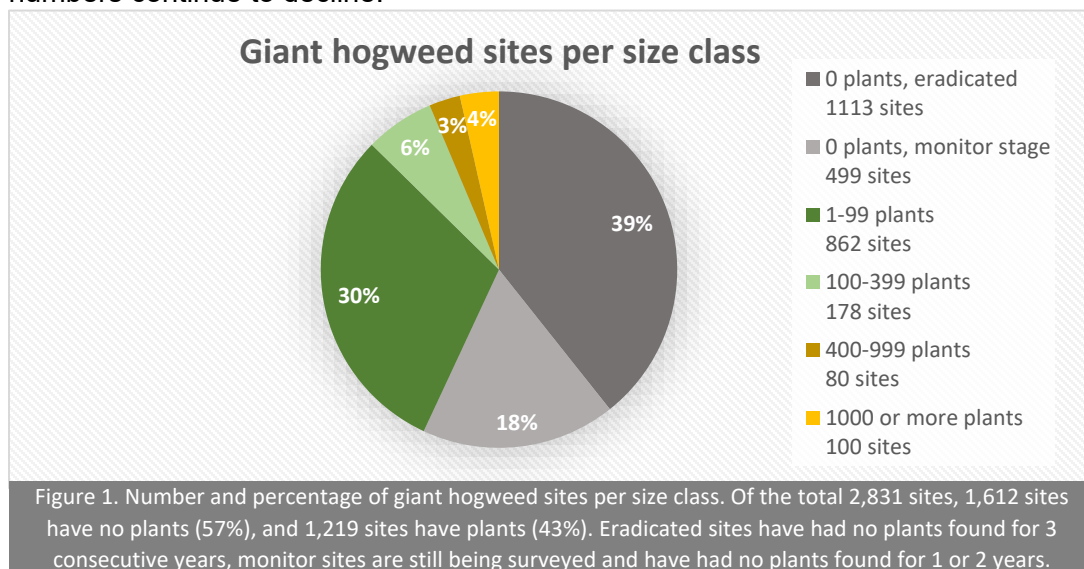
Bureau of Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health

## Highlights from Giant Hogweed Management in 2022

New York State's Giant Hogweed (GH) Program has been tremendously successful. The number of GH plants at many sites throughout the state continue to decline. The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Giant Hogweed Program and our partners have had many successes this year in managing GH.

We are making progress on eradicating GH:

- 216 sites were designated as eradicated—these have had no GH plants for three consecutive years. This brings the total eradicated sites up to 1,113!
- Of the sites that still have GH plants, 71% are considered small sites with 100 or fewer plants. With continued management, we expect many more of these sites to have no GH in the next few years.
- Larger sites are responding well to control measures; some sites that required herbicide treatment are now small enough to be treated using root-cutting and overall numbers continue to decline.



## 2022 By the Numbers:

- More than 20 miles of stream surveyed;
- 88 new sites identified;
- Nearly 2,000 sites visited;
- 5,780 DEC staff hours dedicated to surveying for and removing GH; and
- Nearly half a million GH plants controlled.

Table 1. Number of Sites Surveyed and Plants Controlled per Control Method by DEC & Partner Agencies

Rootcut Control	Herbicide Control	Umbel Control	Total Sites and Plants Controlled	Sites Surveyed with No Plants Found
624 sites 21,996 plants	447 sites 429,361 plants	308 sites 9,447 plants	1,060 sites 452,042 plants	893 sites 0 plants



DEC staff cutting a GH plant root.



DEC staff spraying GH with herbicide.



DEC staff removing GH seed heads.

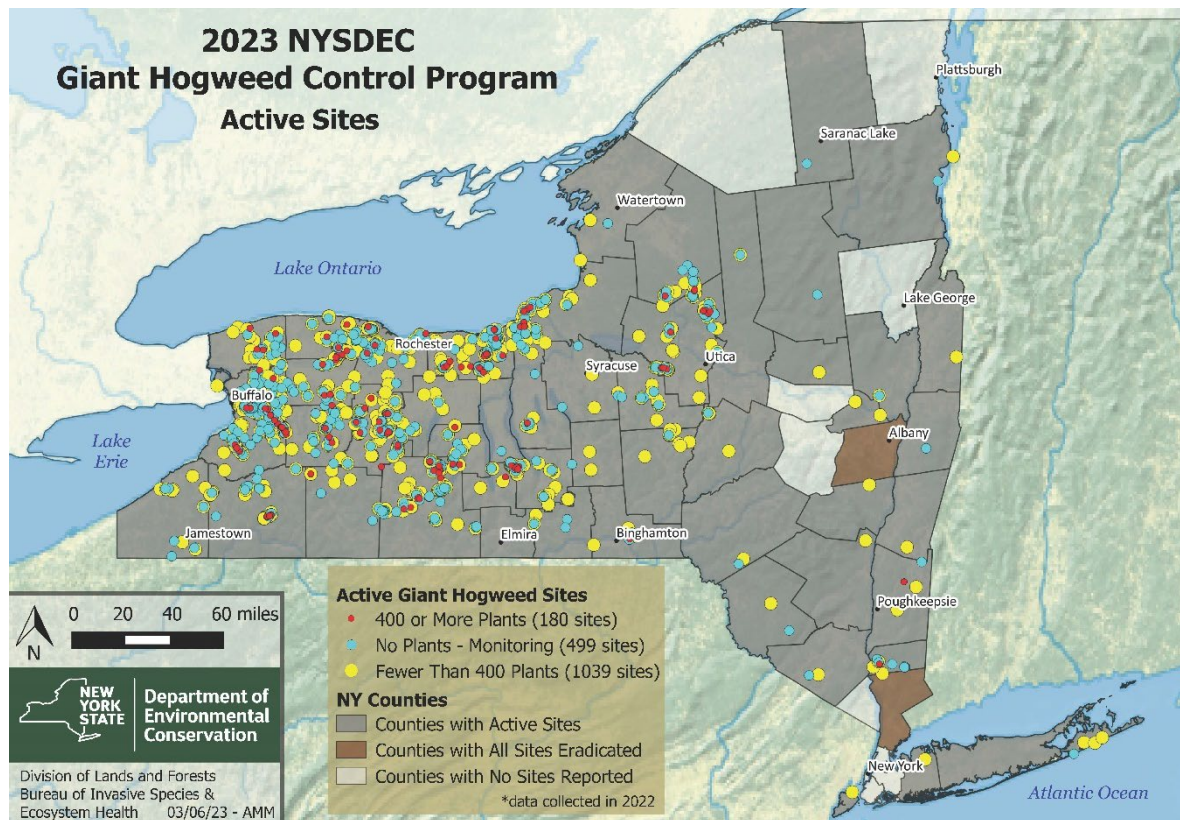
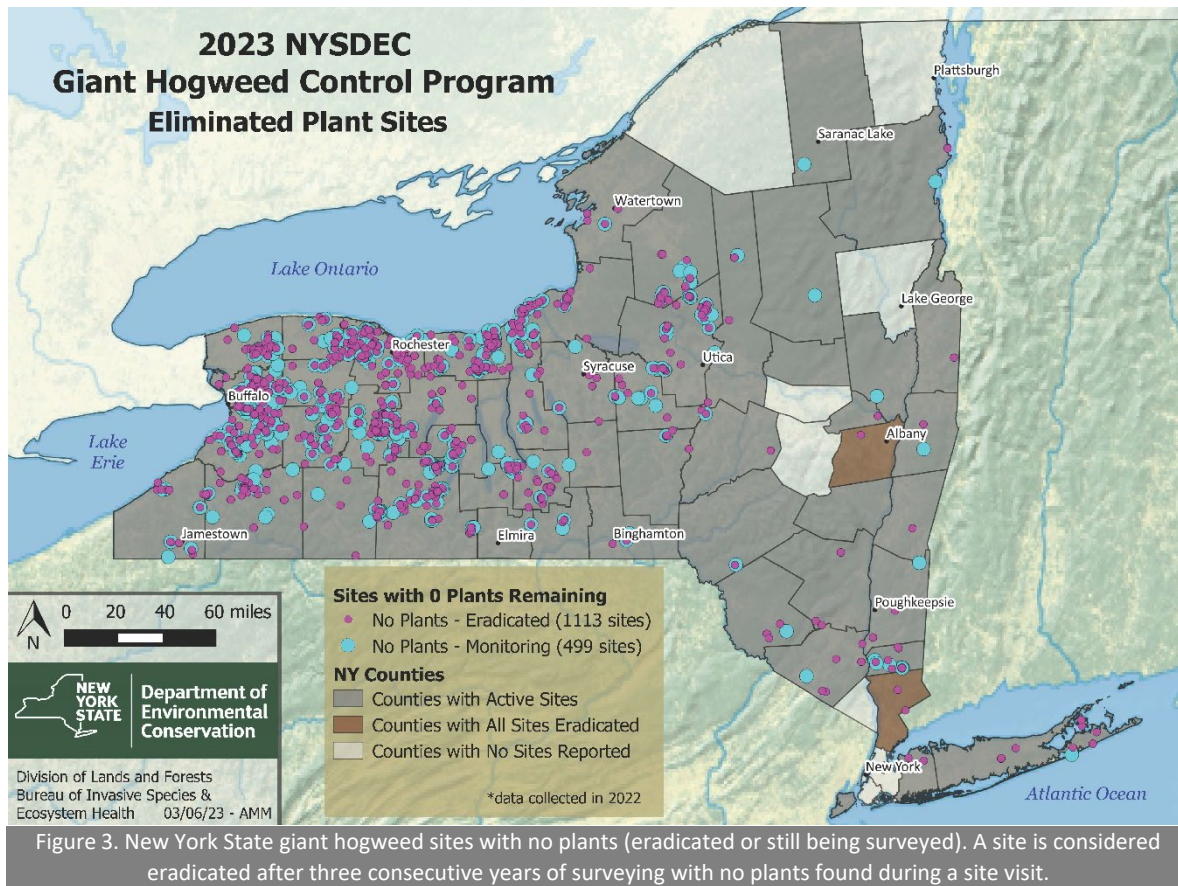


Figure 2. New York State active giant hogweed sites in treatment or monitor stages





## Outreach

Outreach plays a significant part in the GH Program. The control of this plant is a personal safety issue that people care deeply about. Greater public awareness has led to us finding more small infestations at earlier stages, helping to better control GH. We provide information on how to identify, report, and safely and effectively control GH. In 2022, outreach included:

- responding to 1,042 calls and emails;
- distributing more than 2,000 educational brochures, posters, and control guides; and
- nearly 300,000 visits to the GH webpages.

## Contact:

For more information on giant hogweed and to request outreach materials, please contact:

NYS DEC Giant Hogweed Information Line

Email: [ghogweed@dec.ny.gov](mailto:ghogweed@dec.ny.gov)

Phone: 845-256-3111

Webpage: [www.dec.ny.gov/animals/39809.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/39809.html)

## Thank You to Our Partners!

Collaboration with our partners has greatly improved the GH control efforts by conducting more outreach, surveys, monitoring, and treatments. In 2022, six partner agencies dedicated over 160 hours at 129 sites. We appreciate all their hard work as it enables us to reach more sites. Two partner agencies collaborated with DEC to provide additional staff to work on this statewide project, which helps broaden the reach of the entire program. Thank you to our partners:

- [Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program \(APIPP\) Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management \(PRISM\)](#)
- [Capital Region PRISM](#)
- [Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership \(CRISP\) PRISM](#)
- [Lower Hudson PRISM](#)
- [Saint Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario \(SLELO\) PRISM](#)
- [Oswego County Soil and Water Conservation District \(OCSWCD\)](#)
- [State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry \(SUNY-ESF\)](#)
- [Finger Lakes Institute](#) in conjunction with the [Finger Lakes PRISM](#)

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Department of  
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