



# Imagining a Virginia Without Invasive Plants

## A Statewide Future Search Strategic Planning Workshop

### Workshop Purpose

*Building a Statewide Coalition and Strategic Blueprint to Reduce Invasive Plants and Increase the Availability of Native Plants.*

### Workshop Structure

A Future Search workshop is a highly structured three-day event that is organized around facilitated activities that take place within Stakeholder Groups and within mixed groups made from representatives from each of the Stakeholder Groups. The Stakeholder Groups, when combined all together, are intended to represent a microcosm of the interconnected system in Virginia that interacts with, influences, and intersects with invasive plants.

The workshop’s Steering Committee has identified 8 Stakeholder Groups for the Blue Ridge PRISM Future Search workshop. The table below provides a description of each Stakeholder Group and how they interact within the larger system impacting the presence of invasive plants in Virginia.

<b>Workshop Stakeholder Groups</b>	<b>Examples of Orgs / Members</b>
<b>Service Providers</b> have the capability to expand or undertake invasive plant control work and expand the supply of qualified invasive plant control workers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental/forestry consulting contractors</li> <li>• Landscaping companies and/or landscape management contractors</li> </ul>
<b>Plant Specifiers/Installers &amp; Native/Friendly Plant Nurseries</b> have the ability to reduce the use of invasive plants in landscaping, increase the supply of native plants to meet the demand from clients and specifiers, and reduce the availability of invasive plants in the trade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Builders and developers</li> <li>• Landscape professionals</li> <li>• Native plant nurseries</li> </ul>
<b>Educators</b> are at the heart of building and strengthening efforts to reach out to, educate, and engage the public.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public gardens</li> <li>• Regional native plant campaign coordinators</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School and university educators and researchers</li> </ul>
<p><b>Conservation Organizations</b> as advocates for the natural world, have the ability – through staff, volunteers, and members – to take a range of actions to improve habitat and ecological health.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garden clubs</li> <li>• Wildlife supporters</li> <li>• NGOs supporting this purpose</li> </ul>
<p><b>Private Landowners and Land Managers</b> have the capacity to increase awareness of the threat to private lands, address challenges to conservation, and mobilize themselves and others to action.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual landowners</li> <li>• Native American Tribes</li> <li>• HOAs, Utility ROW owners, and Farmers Associations</li> </ul>
<p><b>Public Agency Landowners</b> have the capacity to increase awareness of the threat to public lands, address challenges to conservation, and mobilize teams to take action.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipal park authority park management staff</li> <li>• State landowner agency land management staff</li> <li>• Federal agencies supporting this purpose</li> </ul>
<p><b>Public Agency and Public Policy Staff</b> have the capacity to address the threat to Virginia’s natural lands and address the public resources and programs needed to meet this threat.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior state landowner agency staff</li> <li>• Senior municipal parks staff</li> <li>• Soil and Water Conservation Districts</li> </ul>
<p><b>Non-governmental Organization (NGO) Staff Working with State and Local Legislation/Regulation</b> can build awareness of the threat to Virginia’s natural lands and invest address public resources and programs needed to meet this threat.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local elected officials</li> <li>• State elected officials</li> </ul>