



Capital Region PRISM Partnership Invite and Acknowledgement

The Capital Region Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (CR-PRISM) is a collaborative organization created to address the threat of invasive species. The CR-PRISM is financially supported by the Environmental Protection Fund as administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC). The CR-PRISM is a not-for-profit quasi-government agency hosted by the Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Saratoga County.

The office is staffed with a full-time Terrestrial, Aquatics, Outreach and Lead Coordinator. Seasonal staff includes Invasive Species Technicians, Watercraft Inspection Stewards, and interns. The CR-PRISM provides services to eleven counties in New York State: Albany, Columbia, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Schenectady, and portions of Fulton, Greene, Herkimer, Saratoga, Warren, and Washington.

The CR-PRISM operates through a strategic plan that was built with input by entities and individuals of the Partnership. The Vision, Mission, and Goals below of the [CR-PRISM Five-Year Strategic Plan](#) have been crafted to benefit the environment and communities of New York State.

Vision

To cultivate a region in which partners work together to address the harmful impacts associated with invasive species to protect its lands and waters, biodiversity, economy, and quality of life.

Mission

Our mission is to prevent, detect, and respond to harmful invasive species in the PRISM region through collaboration, resource sharing, strategic messaging, and education.

Goals

Partnership

Coordinate and collaborate with partners to grow and strengthen regional capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to invasive species.

Prevent

Minimize the introduction and spread of harmful invasive species into new areas.

Detect and Monitor

Detect and monitor harmful invasives species approaching and affecting the Capital Region.

Respond

Mitigate ecological and economic impacts of priority invasive species using an integrated pest management approach.

Outreach, Communication and Education

Build engaged communities that understand, support, and invest in the PRISM's work to prevent, detect, and respond to harmful invasive species in the Capital Region.



Partners are an integral component of the CR-PRISM in reaching a common goal of slowing and controlling the spread of invasive species. An essential role of the CR-PRISM is to identify and assist stakeholders to improve opportunities for sharing of resources while delivering up-to-date practices for prevention and management. Please note the potential services provided below represent potential means in which a collaboration between the CR-PRISM and your entity could be forged.

Services offered for the Partnership:

Coordinating efforts regarding invasive species outreach, prevention, detection, management, restoration, and research.

- Aiding partners to develop and install a Framework for Response in which a management plan for a project are delineated to elicit realistic, cost-effective, and measurable outcomes. The framework can be used to protect conservation values and establish Invasive Species Prevention Zones (ISPZ).
- Providing integrated pest management recommendations for effective response and adaptive management.
- Increasing capacity of partners, by deploying a response team, to implement local eradication, exclusion, suppression, cultural, and biologic control efforts.
- Developing and implementing effective restoration methods for areas that have been degraded by invasive species and where control actions have taken place.
- Establishing early detection and monitoring networks for invasive species.
- Alerting partners to high and very high threat species.
- Aiding strategic and principal partners with research.
- Facilitating equipment sharing among partners.
- Administering funds for invasive species work through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process.
- Dispensing Memorandums of Understanding (MOU's) for work to be executed on behalf of the CR-PRISM.
- Delivering targeted education and outreach for partner staff and communities.
- Establishing and training partner volunteer networks.
- Providing networking opportunities across domains at our partners meetings.
- Highlighting partner successes in invasive species and conservation management.

Interested in Participating in the Partnership

If you are interested in joining the CR-PRISM Partnership, please review our Acknowledgement Form. The acknowledgment outlines the benefits of participating as a partner of the CR-PRISM. The acknowledgment defines the Partnership relationship and associated requirements between the CR-PRISM and entity seeking the partnership. When seeking services with the CR-PRISM please contact a coordinator. Our work efforts are aligned to our CR-PRISM Five-Year Strategic and Annual Work Plans. Request for services is prioritized based on our capacity and projects that have the greatest benefit to our environment and communities. The opportunity to participate as CR-PRISM Partner is open-ended and all are welcome.



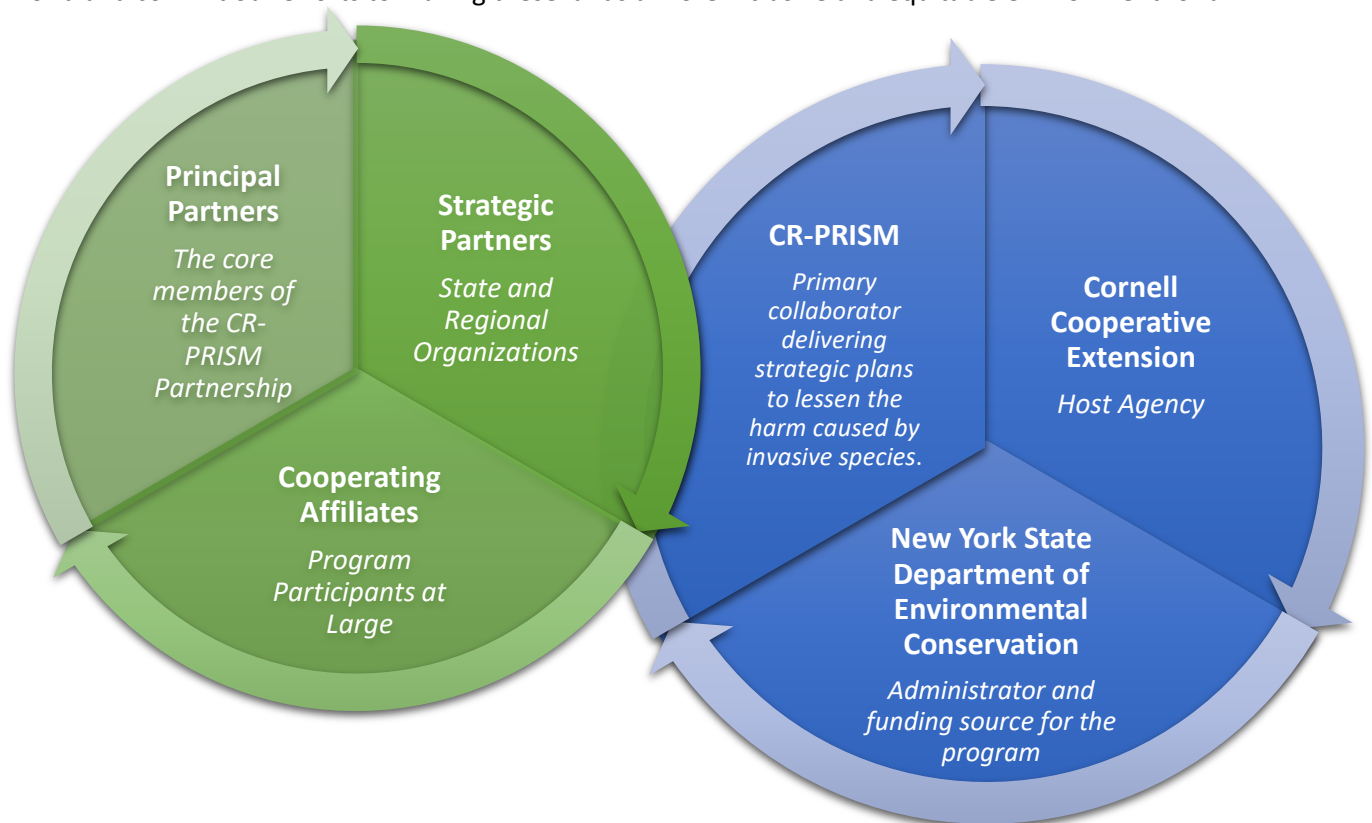
Capital Region PRISM Partnership Acknowledgement

The purpose of the following acknowledgement is to outline the benefits of participating as a partner of the CR-PRISM and general requirements. The acknowledgment defines the Partnership with a common goal of slowing and controlling the spread of invasive species. The objective is to establish and maintain a partner network in which our collective efforts can be effective in controlling the spread of invasive species on a regional scale.

CR-PRISM Partners Defined

Partners are people, public agencies, or private organizations actively working to achieve outcomes to minimize the impact of invasive species on the greater Capital Region’s communities, lands, and waters. The Partnership consists of any organization, volunteer, or community member that has an interest in the CR-PRISM’s mission and shared vision. The CR-PRISM welcomes partner members from academic institutions, government agencies, municipalities, not-for-profit organizations, private preserves and parks, land trusts, conservancies, lake associations, agricultural institutions, local businesses, environmental groups, tribal groups, community scientists, and other clubs or organizations to join the Partnership. Individuals can also serve to help with the CR-PRISM. Partners can also include subcontractors working under agreements as implemented through a request for proposals, competitive or sole-sourced contracts, and memorandums of understanding.

The CR-PRISM also acknowledges the ancestral stewards of the lands and waters in which we help to protect, the Mohican and Mohawk people. The CR-PRISM’s commitment to preserving the natural resources of our shared environment, honors the legacy of the Mohican and Mohawk peoples, as the original stewards who nurtured this land as an Indigenous population. We honor and respect their historic dedication to taking care of the natural world and commit our efforts to making these lands a more inclusive and equitable environment for all.





CR-PRISM Partner Classifications

For organizational purposes, our partnership has three classifications:

1. **Principal Partners** are those entities with the greatest vested interests with the mission of the CR-PRISM. Principal Partners are critical to the delivery of components of the CR-PRISM Five-Year Strategic Plan and engage with the CR-PRISM staff on a regular basis.

Principal Partners

- *Participate in prevention, monitoring, detection, response, restoration, and/or research projects.*
- *Participate in outreach and education strategies related to invasive species and conservation.*
- *Can be involved with advisory boards, committees, work groups, and task forces that exist to help mitigate and slow the harm caused by invasive species and promote restorative actions.*
- *Work under contractual agreements to conduct invasive species strategies and actions.*
- *Share in work efforts with the CR-PRISM staff on a regular and annual basis.*

2. **Strategic Partners** are municipal, county, government, and statewide stakeholders who have the capacity to perform critical actions in preventing and managing invasive species within their agencies and are imperative to regional cohesiveness.

Strategic Partners

- *The New York State PRISMs, Invasive Species Council, and Members of Invasive Species Advisory Committee, and the Invasive Species Coordinate Section, New York Department of Environmental Conservation Regional Offices, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Cornell University Integrated Pest Management, Cornell Cooperative Extension Offices, iMapInvasives, New York Natural Heritage Program, New York Invasive Species Research Institute, New York State Hemlock Initiative, Cornell University Integrated Pest Management, New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation, New York State Canal Corps, United States Geologic Survey, United States Forest Service, National Park Service, conservation advisory boards, academic institutions and other.*

3. **Cooperating Affiliates** is any group, club, or organization that takes an active interest and a desire to cooperate in CR-PRISM and support its mission. Cooperating affiliates tend to take part in one-time events or participate in limited engagements and actions. Cooperating affiliates may be active/inactive from year to year.

Benefit and Responsibility of the Partnership

Partners informally agree to support, participate, and advance the Capital Region PRISM's vision, mission, and goals in ways that are compatible with their own directives. Partners also agree to respond to CR-PRISM inquiries and requests for information and expertise. Partners who actively participate in the CR-PRISM in one or more of the following ways below are recognized as a CR-PRISM Partner. CR-PRISM Partners will also have greater consideration in funding opportunities for subcontracts. Partners can act in an advisory capacity should the need arise and take part in projects and activities based on need and/or desire. The CR-PRISM is managed as a cooperative effort between the CR-PRISM Coordinators, the NYS DEC and the Invasive Species Coordinate Section, the host organization, and the members of the Partnership.



Partnership Requirements:

1. **All Partners: Principal, Strategic, and Cooperating Affiliates**
 - a. Contribute to an annual CR-PRISM Survey for education, prevention, monitoring, detection, response, restoration, research actions, or other related invasive species activities.
 - b. Join CR-PRISM Listserv or Partner Distribution List.
2. **Principal Partners**
 - a. Attend at least one partner meeting a year and participate in one or more of the following ways:
 - Work directly with CR-PRISM staff or other members of the Partnership on an invasive species project(s).
 - Support the CR-PRISM through initiatives, information sharing, and or participation in work groups, advisory panels, task forces, and sub-committees.
 - Initiate and/or participate in invasive species education, outreach, prevention, monitoring, detection, response, restoration, and/or research efforts in the CR-PRISM geography.
3. **Strategic Partners** (*participate in one or more of the following ways*)
 - a. Attendance at a partners meeting is encouraged when possible.
 - b. Work directly with CR-PRISM staff or other members of the Partnership on an invasive species project(s).
 - c. Support the CR-PRISM through initiatives, information sharing, and/or participation in work groups, advisory panels, task forces, and sub-committees when applicable.
 - d. Initiate and or participate in invasive species education, outreach, prevention, monitoring, detection, response, restoration, and/or research efforts.
4. **Cooperating Affiliates** (*participate in one or more of the following ways*)
 - a. Initiate and or participate in invasive species education, outreach, prevention, monitoring, detection, response, restoration, and/or research efforts in the CR-PRISM geography.
 - b. Partner with CR-PRISM staff or other members of the Partnership on an invasive species project(s).

Partnership Benefits:

The individual contribution of each partner is magnified by its engagement in the CR-PRISM. Partners receive many benefits by joining in the collective efforts of the CR-PRISM. The greatest benefit is through the power of collaboration and an increase in capacity to conduct invasive species prevention, monitoring, response, and restoration and research efforts to help conservation actions.

Networking and Collaboration

CR-PRISM partner meetings and events provide an opportunity to engage with other organizations and individuals committed to minimizing the impact of invasive species. The networking opportunities in these meetings and events allow for sharing ideas and knowledge about natural resource management practices, exploring ways to collaborate and make the most effective use of resources, and identifying innovations within related fields of work.



Access to Expertise and Resources

CR-PRISM partners are at the forefront of regional invasive species research, development, and application of best management practices. Partners can access and contribute to the region’s collective knowledge of regional invasive species management issues. The CR-PRISM keeps a collection of technical resources accessible to partners. CR-PRISM staff are available to assist with natural resource planning and implementation of outreach, monitoring, detection, and response activities related to invasive species.

In addition, many of the CR-PRISM partners benefit from shared services. Past examples of services have included; access to natural resource specialist(s), technical training on invasive species identification and management, assistance in developing a framework of response including prioritization and management planning, access to technical training, data reporting for monitoring and treatment of invasive species, direct assistance in detection and response actions including restoration projects with long-term monitoring, equipment sharing, crew assistance for field work, and recruitment for volunteer engagements. The CR-PRISM also conducts education and outreach activities for the partnership and their constituents and can serve as a consultant in conservation planning.

Funding opportunities

The CR-PRISM allocates resources through an annual Request for Proposals (RFPs) and Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) from the New York Environmental Protection Fund as administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Invasive species related work will be prioritized and conducted on behalf of the CR-PRISM as aligned to the PRISM’s Five-Year Strategic Plan and Annual Work Plans.

Recognition

Partners are recognized by CR-PRISM through the network and in its quarterly and annual report(s). This recognition can help partners demonstrate how their individual contributions add to the collective accomplishments of the CR-PRISM.

Eligibility

Any organization involved in invasive species education, prevention, detection, management, restoration, and research is eligible to join. The CR- PRISM welcomes members from academic institutions, government agencies, municipalities, not-for-profit organizations, private preserves and parks, land trusts, conservancies, lake associations, agricultural institutions, local businesses, environmental groups, tribal groups, community scientists and other clubs or organizations from the region to participate. Partners are dedicated to slowing the spread of invasive species and protecting our environment.

Please select a defining partnership role below that you wish to be named by and share your contact information. We will then add you to our distribution list for critical announcements. Feel free to electronically email the information below to capitalregionprism@cornell.edu and retain a copy for yourself.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Partnership Acknowledgement and Definition

- Principal Partner
- Strategic Partner
- Cooperating Affiliate Partner