

## Reporting invasive *Phragmites*

When monitoring your wetland, if you find any invasive *Phragmites* we strongly encourage you to report it using the EDDMapS Ontario app so that conservation organizations can gather records about where the invasive occurs and take action to remove it and manage it.

### How to register with EDDMapS Ontario - App

1. Download the EDDMapS Ontario App from the App Store (iPhone) or the Google Play Store (Android). Open the app.
2. To create an account, on the home screen, click on “EDDMapS Login”. Select “Register with EDDMapS”.
3. Input your information (name and email), and create a password. Under “Organization”, input “TLB”. This way we will be able to find your data easily. Click submit.
4. You are now registered and ready to use the app.

### How to Report a *Phragmites* Sighting using EDDMapS Ontario

1. Open the app. Make sure you are signed in with your account.
2. To login to your account, click “EDDMapS Login” from the home screen. Input your account information (email and password), and click “Login”.
3. To report *Phragmites*, from the home screen, select “Species Categories”. You will be taken to a screen where you can select from either Aquatic Animals, Aquatic Plants, Invasive Forest Pests, Invasive Pathogens, or Terrestrial Plants. If you are **near water**, select “Aquatic Plants”. If you are **not near water**, select “Terrestrial Plants”.
4. You will then be brought to a list of species. Click on the search bar at the top of the screen. If you want to search by common name (**European Common Reed**), ensure that “Common Name” is highlighted. If you want to search by scientific name (*Phragmites australis subsp. australis*), ensure “Scientific Name” is highlighted. Type the name of the species into the search bar and click on it when it appears. Remember that this app can only be used to report invasive species, so do not worry about accidentally selecting the native species of *Phragmites*.



5. When you select Phragmites from the list of species, you will be brought to the reporting page. The date, time, and your location should be automatically populated. If they are not, input the missing information.
6. To take photos and upload them to the app, click on the image of the **camera**. Select **"yes"** to allow the app to access your camera and your photos. A box will appear asking if you would like to take a photo, or upload a photo from your phone library. If you have already taken the photos, click **"Select from Library"**. If you have yet to take a photo, click **"Take a Photo"**. Please ensure that you take **clear photos** as in order for your sighting to be verified by professionals, they must be able to identify the plant based on the images you provide.

After you take a photo, you will be able to add a **brief description** to it. Provide as much information in the caption as possible.

7. After you have uploaded your photos, input the rest of the required information including **"Habitat"** (from a list of options), **"Abundance"** (choose from options including Single Plant, Scattered Plants, and Dense Patches), and an estimation of the **Area** occupied by Phragmites. The size estimate can be made in hectares or square meters.
8. Under the **"Protocol"** section, select **N/A**.
9. Under **"Description"**, select all of the descriptions that apply. It is possible that **"In Flower"**, **"Seeds"**, and **"Dormant/Dead"** all apply to the same stand.
10. Please note that if you searched for Invasive Phragmites under the **"Terrestrial Plants"** section of the app, you will be asked for some additional information regarding the stand including the **"Approximate number of individuals"** and **"Canopy Closure/Ground Cover (trees)"**. You will also be presented with additional options in the **"Description"** section including **"Mature"** and **"Immature"**. For the purposes of these surveys, we will not require any of these fields to be populated/selected. However, if you would like to provide this information in the app, please feel free to do so.
11. If you have any additional information regarding the sighting, please include it in the **"Notes"** section at the bottom of the screen. Helpful information

could include the nearest intersection of roads, or other landmarks that could be used to find the stand at a later date. We would also appreciate it if you could include in this section an **estimate of the percent cover of Invasive Phragmites** across the given habitat. For example, if Phragmites is occupying the entire shoreline around a body of water, we would like to know what percentage of the entire lake environment is occupied by the Phragmites. **The Percent Cover Estimation Sheet** attached to this protocol can be used to make this estimate.

12. After you have input all of the necessary information and attached the photos to the sheet, click **"Save"** in the bottom right corner. When you click **"Save"**, your report will be added to your **"Upload Queue"**. Reports in your upload queue can be **viewed, edited** or **uploaded**.

To **edit** a report in your queue, click on the report in the Upload Queue list, and make the required changes. To **delete** a report from the Upload Queue, select **"Actions"**, select the report, then select **"Delete"** from the bottom right hand corner of the screen.

13. When your sighting report is complete, and you are in an area with cellular data or internet, select **"Actions"** from the top right corner of the **Upload Queue** screen. Select the species **report** from the list that you would like to upload, then select **"Upload"** from the bottom centre of the screen.
14. After you have uploaded your observation reports, wait for your sighting to be confirmed. This process usually takes about a week. After your sighting has been confirmed it will be visible to other users of the app so that individuals or organizations can strategize and prioritize for its removal.

\*If you would prefer to report your Phragmites sightings on the EDDMaps website, go to [eddmaps.org/ontario/](http://eddmaps.org/ontario/), log in with your account, and input your observations.