



**Public Administration Department  
Parks and Recreation Division**

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May 7, 2019

Dear Neighbor,

The City of Duluth has been planning and discussing habitat restoration work along the Western Waterfront Trail with the public since last year. At the last public meeting in January 2016, Parks and Recreation staff informed the public about planned work to remove non-native invasive buckthorn and honeysuckle as well as other non-native invasive vegetation that has grown over and is impeding access to users of the Western Waterfront trail.

The City is ready to implement the plan and has a contractor in place to remove invasives in several areas (see map) as part of necessary habitat restoration to restore native vegetation in the St. Louis River Corridor. Workers plan to cut and remove buckthorn from 7 AM till 7 PM, Monday through Friday with the possibility of weekend hours depending on progress and weather. Cut buckthorn will be chipped and brought to two specific burning locations, (see map) in Smithville Park and at the end of Indian Point Campground. The burn locations are not near residential sites or buildings and will be heavily monitored. Wind and weather are other factors that will determine the burning period.

Residents can expect to see 5-8 workers at any time in the Morgan Park and Riverside area from March 21 until mid-April. Due to the propensity for buckthorn to resprout, Garlon 4, a commonly used herbicide, will be used as spot treatment on stumps during the cutting process. Flag markers will be in place informing people of specifically treated areas. To avoid any concerns, the City recommends residents and their pets not come into contact with the herbicide and remain clear of treated areas for at least 24 hours following the spot treatment.

Anyone interested in receiving regular updates on this habitat restoration or future projects can check the Western Waterfront Trail webpage at <http://www.duluthmn.gov/st-louis-river-corridor/western-waterfront-restoration,-renewal-and-access/> or email Jim Shoberg, Project Coordinator, at [jshobergh@duluthmn.gov](mailto:jshobergh@duluthmn.gov) and request to be added to the habitat restoration email update subscription.

Sincerely,

James M. Shoberg  
Project Coordinator