

**Title:** Invasive plants and how they spread

**Speaker:** Dr. Emily Rauschert

**Bio:**

Emily Rauschert is a population biologist focusing on plant invasions and effective teaching and mentoring. Her research interests include the spread and spatial dynamics of invasive species, as well as urban plant community ecology. She is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological, Geological and Environmental Sciences at Cleveland State University. Before that, she was an Assistant Professor at St. Mary's College of Maryland and a Fulbright scholar in Hungary, studying invasive goldenrods. She currently serves on the board of the Ohio Invasive Plants Council.

**Abstract:**

What are invasive plants, and why do we have so many of them? This talk will focus on non-native and problematic plants, including some of the challenges we face here in Ohio. I will talk about what types of plants are more likely to become invasives, and what ecosystems are more likely to be invaded. Invasive plants can spread in many ways, and people often play an unintentional role in further spreading invasive plants. We will end by discussing what we can do to prevent further plant invasions and their negative impacts.