Contractor Specifications for
Invasive Shrub and Tree Removal, Control and Disposal
in the Village of Mettawa through Openlands Cost Share 2020-2022

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PART 1: DESCRIPTION
Work shall include the control of invasive shrubs of all sizes, including but not limited to buckthorn, honeysuckle, burning bush, and Japanese barberry, and invasive maple and ash saplings that are generally less than 10 feet tall, through a variety of techniques including mechanical and hand cutting, followed up by application of herbicide to the stump, basal bark treatment or wick herbicide application, depending on which technique, approved by the property owner, is most appropriate for the site and species to be controlled, and the threat of non-target mortality or herbicide damage to nearby native species, in particular, endangered or threatened plant species. Stacking cut woody debris into brush piles and ignition will be allowed in some locations and seasonal windows. The Contractor shall provide all necessary equipment and tools including vehicles and gas for travel. The Work shall be performed on private residential locations in the Village of Mettawa in Lake County, Illinois.

PART 2: LIABILITY/INSURANCE
Contractor shall maintain general liability insurance with $2,000,000 aggregate, and name Openlands as additional insured during the period of the contracted work. Contractor shall provide Openlands with evidence of this coverage. Insurance certificates shall list “Openlands, 25 East Washington Street, Suite 1650, Chicago, Illinois 60602” as the certificate holder, and under additional insureds: Openlands.

PART 3: QUALITY ASSURANCE
3.1 Contractor shall provide at least one person present at all times during execution of this work who shall be thoroughly familiar with this type of work and the type of
materials and methods being used. Said person shall be competent at identification of invasive shrubs and saplings to be cut and native shrubs and saplings to be preserved during the season the work is to be completed. Said person shall direct all work performed on site.

3.2 Prior to any herbicide use the contractor shall submit to Openlands a current copy of the State of Illinois Commercial Pesticide Applicator’s license for the company and, for each person handling herbicide at the project site, a current copy of the State of Illinois Pesticide Operator’s license with certification in the forest and aquatic categories. All contractor crew leaders must be certified to apply herbicides in Illinois and be on site at all times.

3.3 For the property owner to receive cost share assistance, Openlands must have approved the proposed work in writing prior to the start of the work.

3.4 All work must be completed and invoiced by September 30, 2022.

3.5 Special attention shall be applied to those areas where invasive shrubs are to be removed in wet areas and high-quality areas.

3.6 All methods and materials used shall meet or exceed applicable federal, state, county and local laws and regulations. The use of any herbicide shall follow directions given on the herbicide label. In the case of a discrepancy between these specifications and the herbicide label, the label shall prevail.

3.7 All herbicide applications shall include a dye marker.

PART 4. MATERIALS

4.1 The herbicide to be used for stump applications shall be TRICLOPYR: 3,5,6-TRICHLORO-2-PYRIDINYLOXYACETIC ACID, BUTOXYETHYL ESTER, trade name Garlon 4 or equivalent.

4.2 The herbicide to be used for foliar applications shall be TRICLOPYR: 3,5,6-TRICHLORO-2-PYRIDINYLOXYACETIC ACID, BUTOXYETHYL AMINE, trade name Garlon 3A or equivalent. In areas of standing water, Garlon 3A, Rodeo, Aquaneat or equivalent shall be used.

PART 5. REMOVAL METHODS

5.1 The contractor shall remove and dispose of all invasive woody material within the
removal limits outlined in the approved application with foliar spray, cut stump, basal bark or any other applicable method commonly used by restoration professionals and approved by the property owner. The owner may use chipped/mulched material for trails, but the chips/mulch cannot be spread across the woodland ground layer. Cut woody material can also be burned in piles onsite under all requirements set forth by the Village of Mettawa’s current burn permit from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency but burn piles must be kept out of ecologically sensitive areas.

5.2 Invasive shrubs and authorized invasive tree saplings can be removed with machinery, tools, or any other applicable method commonly used by restoration professionals and approved by the property owner, including but not necessarily limited to gas-powered chain saws, gas-powered clearing saws, forestry mowers, bow saws and loppers, and treated immediately with specified herbicide.

5.3 A supply of chemical absorbent shall be maintained at the project site. Any chemical spill shall be properly cleaned up and reported to the property owner and Openlands within 24 hours.

5.4 Chemicals cannot be mixed at the project site.