



**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF PARKS AND WATERCRAFT  
ROCKY FORK STATE PARK  
UNDERGROWTH & INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL PERMIT APPLICATION**

**Application to assist the State in the control of undergrowth or to engage in the removal of invasive plant species  
on lands of the State under the administration of the  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Watercraft  
at Rocky Fork State Park  
Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 1546.32(F)**

**Requirements:**

1. This Application may only be submitted by Adjacent Property Owners, meaning those who share a property boundary with the State of Ohio at Rocky Fork State Park.
2. This Application must be submitted to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Watercraft at the Rocky Fork State Park office.
3. The following information must be submitted with this Application:

- a. An aerial map from the county auditor’s web site that shows the location of the undergrowth proposed to be controlled and/or the invasive plant species proposed to be removed;
- b. Photograph(s) of the undergrowth proposed to be controlled and/or the invasive plant species proposed to be removed; and
- c. If the Application seeks permission to engage in the removal of invasive plant species, circle the invasive plant species below.

Amur	European and common buckthorn	purple loosestrife
Tatarian bush	common reed grass (phragmites)	reed canary grass
Japanese and Morrow bush	garlic mustard	cut-leaved teasel
honeysuckle	Japanese knotweed	Other:
autumn and Russian-olive	multiflora rose	Other:

- d. If the Application seeks permission to re-plant native plant species to maintain the area and prevent regrowth of the invasive plant species after their removal, identify the native plant species proposed to be re-planted below.

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4. All Applicants must read and agree to the attached **Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit Rules and Conditions** contained in this Application.



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**APPLICATION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Name(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Adjacent Property Address City/Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
County/Township Phone Number Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address (if different than Adjacent Property Address) City/Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor's Name Mailing Address City/Zip Phone Number Email

Proposed Starting Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of permission requested by the Applicant:

Assist the State in the control of undergrowth: (describe proposed method of control and disposal)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Engage in the removal of invasive plant species: (describe proposed method of removal and disposal)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I have read and agree to the **Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit Rules and Conditions** contained in this Application. I agree that control of any undergrowth or removal of any invasive plant species from state park land requires a Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit, and I will not begin such control or removal until I receive a Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit from the Division.

I explicitly acknowledge that a Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit may be denied. I further acknowledge that the issuance of the Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit does not relieve my duty to comply with all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

The **Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit Rules and Conditions** for an Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit issued pursuant to this Application, and any subsequent Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit, supersede any previous permit issued for the underbrush control and/or invasive plant species removal that is subject to this Application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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DIVISION OF PARKS AND WATERCRAFT  
ROCKY FORK STATE PARK  
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**UNDERGROWTH & INVASIVE SPECIES PERMIT RULES AND CONDITIONS**

**DEFINITIONS:**

For purposes of this Permit Application, the following definitions apply:

1. "Adjacent Property Owner" means a property owner who shares a property boundary with the State of Ohio at Rocky Fork State Park.
2. "Applicant" means an Adjacent Property Owner who has applied for an Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit.
3. "Division" means the ODNR Division of Parks and Watercraft.
4. "Chief" means the Chief of the Division.
5. "Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit" means a permit issued by the Chief, allowing the Applicant to assist the State in the control of undergrowth or to engage in the removal of invasive plant species from state park land.
6. "ODNR" means the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.
7. "Park Office" means the Rocky Fork State Park Office.
8. "Permittee" means an Applicant to whom an Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit has been issued.

**RULES AND CONDITIONS:**

1. Upon receipt of the Application, the Division will inspect the underbrush proposed to be controlled and/or the invasive plant species proposed to be removed and determine and mark which plants, if any, will be authorized to be removed under the Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit.
2. The Chief may deny the issuance of an Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit if the State does not need assistance to control the undergrowth, the plant species are not invasive species, the area falls within protected shoreline areas as described in the Rocky Fork Shoreline Management Plan, or as otherwise necessary to protect and maintain the lands and waters of Rocky Fork State Park as required by Ohio Revised Code 1546.02(B).
3. This Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit authorizes the Permittee to control only the undergrowth and/or remove only the invasive plant species marked by the Division during its inspection on the adjacent state park land shown on the aerial map from the county auditor's web site in the approved Application.
4. This Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit also requires the Permittee to return the state park property to its original condition prior to such removal, ensuring that the disturbed area is filled and level to the surrounding area, seeded, and covered with a material to reduce possible erosion or replanted with native plant species approved under the Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit.
5. The Permittee shall pay all costs associated with the permitted control of underbrush or removal of any invasive plant species, the disposal of such undergrowth and invasive plant species, and the restoration of the disturbed state property under this Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit.
6. This Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit is non-transferable and non-assignable.



**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF PARKS AND WATERCRAFT  
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7. All Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permits must be complied with by the Permittee as required by the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, the **Rocky Fork State Park Shoreline Management Plan**, and these **Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit Rules and Conditions**.
8. The Division may, at all reasonable times and without prior notice, enter into and upon the Permittee's adjacent property to determine if the Permittee is complying with the terms of the Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit and any applicable statute, administrative rule, Division policy or practice.
9. Compliance with a Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit issued by the Division does not relieve the Permittee of any other obligation imposed by law.
10. After the Permittee has completed the control of underbrush and/or removal of invasive plant species authorized by the Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit, the Permittee may apply for an Annual Mowing Permit to maintain the area to prevent the regrowth of the undergrowth or invasive plant species.
11. The Permittee shall not alter, modify, or destroy state park land except in accordance with this Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit or other permit issued by the Chief as authorized by Ohio Revised Code 1546.32. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 1546.32(H), the Chief may fine any Permittee who violates this section in an amount equal to the amount of damage caused or all costs incurred in remediating the alteration, modification, or destruction in addition to a penal sum of up to five thousand dollars. The amount of any fine beyond that needed to cover damage caused or costs incurred in remediation may equal, but shall not exceed, the amount charged for damage or remediation. In addition, any permit currently held or any applied for by the Permittee shall be revoked or denied for a period of two years for the first offense, three years for the second offense, and five years for the third and any subsequent offense.
12. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 1546.32(F)(2), and Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit shall not allow for the removal of any live tree. If the Permittee removes a live tree, all of the following apply: (a) the Chief shall revoke the Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit; (b) the Chief shall fine the Permittee up to five hundred (\$500.00) for each removed tree; and (c) the Permittee is liable to the State for the full value of the removed tree(s) and for any other damages that are available under law.
13. All state park land affected by this Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit is public property and shall remain open at all times for use by the public.
14. No encroachments upon state lands are permissible. Any encroachments upon state park land and/or failure to comply with the Division's requests to remove such encroachments, will result in the termination of the Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit and the required removal of the encroachments and restoration of the state park land at the sole expense of the Permittee.
15. No garbage cans, garbage, refuse, construction materials, sewage, or waste material of any kind shall be thrown, deposited, or permitted to fall onto state park land or into the Lake, nor shall state land be used by the Permittee as a storage place for any gear or equipment. Signs, placards, and commercial displays are prohibited on state park land.
16. The Permittee agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Ohio, ODNR, the Division, and their employees and agents against any claim for injury or damage to the person or property of the Permittee and persons present on, or using, the area authorized by this Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit at the invitation, request, order or permission of the Permittee.
17. The Permittee waives any and all claims of reimbursement and compensation for damage or injury arising from any action taken by the State of Ohio, ODNR, Division and their employees and agents pursuant to these **Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit Rules and Conditions**, or any applicable statute, administrative rule, Division policy or practice.



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18. The Permittee and their guests, invitees, agents, heirs and assigns hereby voluntarily assume all risks of accidents or injury and releases and forever discharges ODNR, and its employees, officers and agents, from any and all liability for personal injury or property damage of any kind sustained on the state lands and waters at this Park while engaging in any activities authorized or required by the Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit, whether such personal or property damage is caused by the negligence of ODNR, its employees, officers, agents, or otherwise.
19. The Permittee further covenants and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless ODNR, its employees, officers, and agents, from all loss and expense, including, but not limited to damages, legal costs, expenses and attorney fees and other cost of defense, in any manner arising from Permittee's use of state lands.
20. The Permittee has read the foregoing **Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit Rules and Conditions**, understands them, and agrees that the Permittee and all of the Permittee's guests, invitees, agents, heirs and assigns will comply with the same.



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DIVISION OF PARKS AND WATERCRAFT  
ROCKY FORK STATE PARK  
UNDERGROWTH & INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL PERMIT APPLICATION**

**PERMIT**

**Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit**

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED

\_\_\_\_\_ (“Permittee”)  
is hereby authorized to:

Assist the State in the control of underbrush and/or  Engage in the removal of invasive plant species marked by the Division located on adjacent state park land in accordance with the information provided in the attached approved Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit Application dated \_\_\_\_\_ and the **Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit Rules and Conditions** contained therein.

The underbrush authorized to be controlled and/or the invasive plants authorized to be removed will be as marked by the Division during its inspection in the location shown in the attached approved Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit Application.

The permitted underbrush control and/or invasive plant removal and disposal, the restoration of the state park land, and any re-planting of native plant species authorized or required by this Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit will be completed by \_\_\_\_\_, or this Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit shall become invalid.

The Permittee is subject to all applicable laws, administrative rules, policies, and practices of the State of Ohio and the ODNR Division of Parks and Watercraft, including the **Rocky Fork State Park Shoreline Management Plan** and the **Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit Rules and Conditions** set forth in the Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit Application.

The requirements of this Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permit, and any subsequent Undergrowth & Invasive Species Permits, supersede any previous permit issued authorizing control and/or removal of the same underbrush and/or invasive plants.

Additional Conditions:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, ODNR Division of Parks and Watercraft or designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date