

2016 Oral Component Scenario – Invasive Species

You are a team of Invasive Species Management Consultants, and you have been hired by the joint owners of Green Acres Resort (judges) to develop a comprehensive Invasive Species Management Plan for their property.

Green Acres Resort is a private resort visited by people from across Pennsylvania and beyond the state during all seasons. Resort visitors enjoy the use of a large recreational lake that offers excellent fishing, a swimming beach, and several boat ramps. Green Acres has a campground for tents and RVs, rental cabins, an upscale lodge with rooms that can be rented out, and a forested area with hiking and horseback riding trails. Green Acres Resort also operates Farm-to-Fork, its very own restaurant that grows as much food as possible for its signature dishes through an on-site farm and orchard.

Green Acres Resort generates about 50% of its income from campsite, lodge, and cabin rentals; 25% from boating and fishing permits; 10% from small general entrance fee; and 15% from the Farm-to-Fork restaurant.

The owners of Green Acres are environmentally conscious, and they value the preservation of natural resources. They are becoming more and more aware of the impact of invasive species already within their resort, and the threats new invasive species could present to their property if they are introduced. On their own, the owners have identified Canada Geese, the Emerald Ash Borer, and Japanese Stilt Grass populations already within Green Acres Resort.

Additionally, the resort owners are concerned with the potential threat of additional infestations by other known invasive species that are impacting other areas in Pennsylvania, and the negative effects those infestations could have on Green Acres. With visitors coming into and out of the Resort every day, they know that an outreach campaign targeting their visitors will be essential in preventing future problems.

You will present your Invasive Species management plan to the joint owners of Green Acres Resort during a 10 minute segment at their next meeting.

During your presentation, be sure to address:

- A plan for the management of the three invasive species currently identified within Green Acres Resort;
- Prevention measures to be taken by Green Acres Resort Owners to avoid future infestation by other potential invasive species;
- Name at least three additional invasive species threats likely to impact the resort and a detailed plan to avoid infestation from the specific species you identify as threats;
- A plan to educate resort patrons and inform them of their role in your management strategies;
- At least two economic or social benefits of your management plan; and
- At least four spoken references citing a source of information for key facts that are relevant to your presentation.