

Frequently Asked Questions



Q: How much does it cost to use the EDDMapS app? Are there any hidden or in-app costs?

A: The EDDMapS app is completely free to download and use for both [iPhone](#) and [Android](#)!

Q: Is submitting a report with the EDDMapS app effective? Or will my record get lost in a sea of unanalyzed data?

A: It is absolutely effective! Every record that is uploaded is sent to a verifier (a real professional in the field!) who confirms the species identification. The verified invasive species record is then sent off to the local authority (e.g., Weed Inspector) for follow-up. Additionally, the verified record is added to the main database that can be accessed online by anyone at EDDMapS.org.

Q: Will I get in trouble for having a regulated species on my land if I report it? Would I get my neighbor in trouble if it was reported on their land?

A: EDDMapS verifiers and municipal Weed Inspectors intend to work with people to stop a problem from getting worse which would likely be the case if it is never reported.

Q: Will my location or the location of my record be visible in the public database if I submit a report?

A: The coordinates of your record location will be visible, but you can choose to submit a report anonymously.

Q: What if I do not want my name on the record?

A: An individual using the app can choose to set their profile to 'anonymous,' so that when a report gets sent in, it will not show the reporter's name. To do this, you will need to log onto your My EDDMapS account on EDDMapS.org and edit your Profile. As you scroll down below your profile information, there will be an option to select Anonymous Reporting.

Q: Who are the verifiers my report would be submitted to?

A: Verifiers are professionals with a level of education, training, experience and expertise to be able to confirm the identification of the species submitted.

Q: Does EDDMapS communicate with iNaturalist?

A: Invasive species data from iNaturalist are submitted to the EDDMapS system. We are currently working to verify and enter those records into the EDDMapS database.

Q: Are there any partnerships currently or in the works with a species identification app such as iNaturalist that works with EDDMapS?

A: The AISC is working to incorporate the Interactive Weed Identification feature from the Alberta Weed Spotter app. This should be complete by spring 2022.

Q: How do I view EDDMapS data?

A: Log onto EDDMapS.org using the same login information you are using for the app. Select the Distribution Map tab or the Tools and Training tab, then select Advanced Query Tools to query invasive species data for a specific location or species.

Q: What if I do not have my device with me when I spot something? Can I report sightings after the fact?

A: Yes, simply log onto EDDMapS.org and select the Report Sighting tab to bring up the invasive species reporting form.

Q: I've created invasive species reports in EDDMapS but I've never heard anything back. Am I missing something?

A: Check your Upload Queue on the Main Menu. All reports created in EDDMapS need to be uploaded from this queue to reach our verifiers. Be sure to upload your reports when connected to the internet so you aren't charged data usage fees from your mobility provider.

Q: How often should I upload my data?

A: However often works best for you! Be sure to connect to the internet to avoid data usage fees from your mobility provider.