

**Originating Committee:** Public/Private Lands Committee

**Author:** Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park, Kevin Roberson President of the Executive Board

**Intended Recipient:** Missouri State Parks

### **Invasive Plant Eradication and Education Policy**

**WHEREAS**, invasive plant species have become well established in many of the Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites; and

**WHEREAS**, Scientists and Naturalists are in overwhelming agreement that invasive plants have a harmful effect in Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites; and

**WHEREAS**, it is widely acknowledged that Invasive plant species upset the natural balance of the native ecosystems in Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites; and

**WHEREAS**, when the natural balance of the native ecosystems is upset there are negative repercussions to the native plants, the native animals and the Missouri State Park and Historic Sites visitor's enjoyment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Missouri State Parks has an opportunity to influence millions of visitors each year at Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites through educational postings, flyers, and presentations; and

**WHEREAS**, Missouri State Parks is uniquely qualified to educate the public due to the numerous Naturalists and Educational specialists on staff; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO, this 12th day of March, 2017, asks the Missouri State Parks to allocate the resources to actively work to both eradicate invasive plants in Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites and to fully educate the public on what they can do and why they should support the effort to eradicate invasive plants inside the park system and on private land.