

iMap Restoration Data Collection

Last updated 7/8/2026

The New York Natural Heritage Program has provided iMapInvasives tools for tracking invasive species treatment projects (ex. removal, suppression) over time for many years. We are now releasing the iMap Restoration Form to document restoration efforts (ex. planting native species) that occur following (or in parallel with) traditional invasive species removals and treatments.

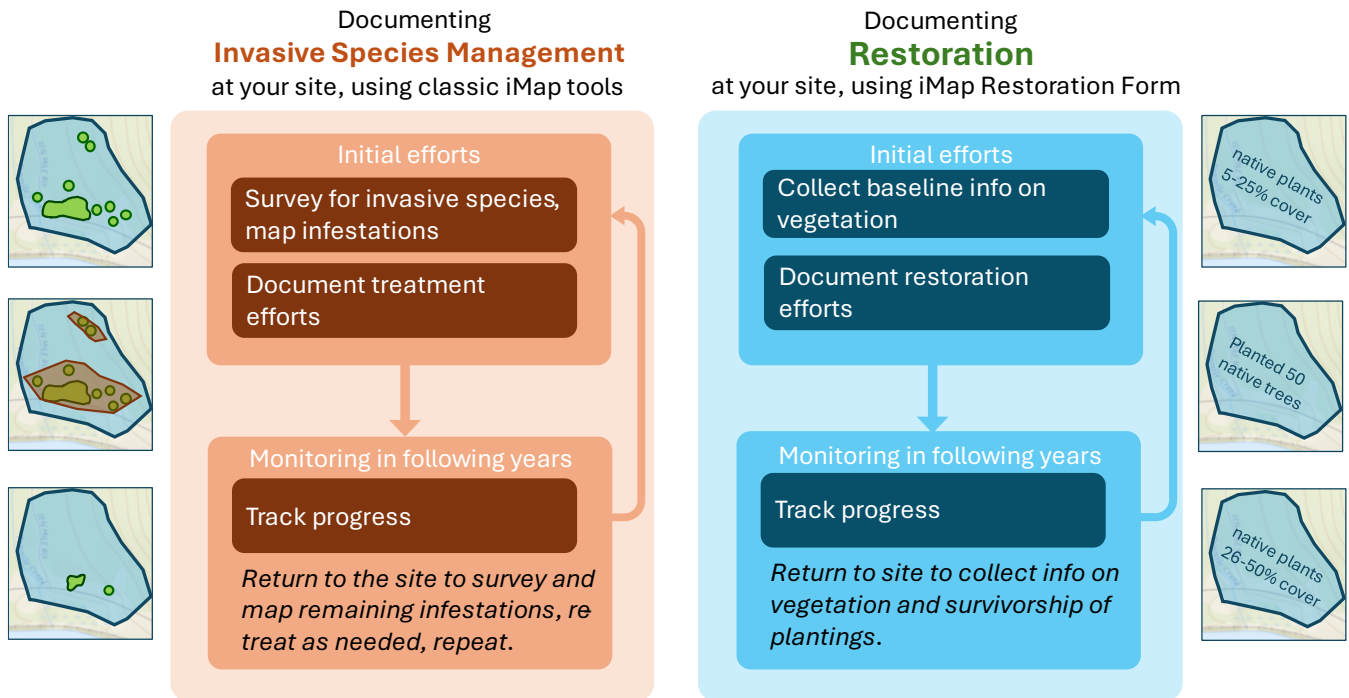


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Planning your restoration project

This document is focused on documenting restoration efforts, please seek out other resources for guidance on planning your project. For guidance on restoration plantings (ex. selecting species to plant), please see the following resources created in partnership with the NYSDEC:

Species Selection Tool, *created by the New York Natural Heritage Program*

<https://nynhp.shinyapps.io/speciesselectiontool/>

Tool for creating candidate planting species lists based on native plant species (including trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants) associated with the natural communities likely to exist at your location and environmental conditions.

Reforestation and Afforestation Guidance for New York, *created by The Nature Conservancy*

[Reforestation and Afforestation Guidance for New York](#)

This document offers broad guidance on planting trees to support reforestation in New York.

Documenting invasive species surveys and removals

There are several available tools for documenting invasive species surveys and removals, including the iMapInvasives Online Interface and the general iMapInvasives Survey123 form. See the *advanced data collection* section at www.nyimainvasives.org/report for more information.

Documenting restoration actions and monitoring

General workflow

The general workflow is collecting one or two records per year for each restoration area.

1. **Initial restoration effort:** There are two main things to document as you start your restoration project:
 - a. **Vegetation assessment:** Capture a baseline abundance of non-invasive and invasive species in the area, **BEFORE** new plants are added into the ground.
 - b. **Restoration activity:** Document the activity you are performing (ex. the species and numbers of plants you are planting into the ground).

Depending on your project, it may make sense to fill out your baseline vegetation assessment and the restoration activity all at once, or at separate times. *You could even fill out a baseline vegetation assessment the year before restoration.*

Option 1: Single record

- Delineate the area where you are conducting restoration (ex. the land where you are adding native plants).
- Collect initial information on existing vegetation, *before* the planting. Save survey as a draft and conduct your restoration effort.
- Once ready, reopen the survey to add your restoration activity into the record.

Option 2: Two records

- a. Record #1: Conduct your baseline vegetation assessment (could be days, weeks, or months before your restoration activity).
 - Delineate the area where you plan to conduct restoration.

- Fill out the vegetation assessment section.
 - Submit the survey (without adding a “restoration activity”).
- b. Record #2: Once you conduct restoration, create new record to document activity:
- Delineate the area where you are conducting restoration.
 - Skip the vegetation assessment.
 - Add restoration activity and fill out details.
 - Submit the survey.

2. Monitoring in following years:

- Return to your restoration area.
- Delineate the area where you are conducting this survey.
- Vegetation assessment (collect information on existing vegetation).
- Assess survivorship of planted species.

Summary of which components of the form to use each year

Section of the form	Year of initial restoration activity	Subsequent years (monitoring)
Restoration Area Polygon	✓	✓
Site info (vegetation assessment, percent cover, etc.)	✓	✓
Restoration Activity	✓	*
Monitoring (survivorship and condition of planted species - not yet visible in the form)		✓

** If you conduct additional restoration efforts following year one (ex. adding more plants), you would document that as a new restoration activity. Otherwise, you can leave this blank when collecting a post-restoration-activity monitoring record.*

Important Notes:

- **This form is intended for collecting data on the specific areas where actions occur** (ex. restoration plantings), rather than broader surrounding areas.
- **This form supports multi-day efforts:** If you are conducting your restoration over multiple days (ex. planting trees every day for two weeks), you can report this all in one survey record (ex. delineate the whole area planted over the two weeks, indicate the total numbers of each species planted, and fill out start and end date).
- **This form is intended for year-after-year documentation, rather than within-year tracking.** While it may be wise to visit your restoration site and check-in on progress within the same season you conducted your effort (ex. visiting the site in August after a May planting effort), you do not need to record multiple within-year site visits using this tool.
- **We encourage you to also document invasive species surveys and collect records on individual invasive species using classic iMap data collection tools.**
- This tool is generally designed for users to submit one record for each of their restoration projects, per year (or two records, if you are conducting your baseline vegetation assessment days/weeks/months before conducting your restoration effort). *However, if you are performing multiple notably distinct efforts (ex. two separate or adjacent plantings with different environmental conditions and species lists), you should record multiple separate records.*

Getting set up with the iMap Restoration Survey123 Form

The iMap Restoration Survey123 form can be accessed and filled out using either method:

- **Field data collection:** Using the Survey123 mobile app on a compatible mobile device (ex. smartphone, tablet, iOS or Android). After downloading and configuring the app and the iMap Restoration form on your device, you can use it offline (ex. when out in the field, with poor connectivity).
- **Web browser:** Access the form on any internet browser (ex. using Firefox on a laptop). This option can work well for filling out the form in your office, after your restoration activity. *Be sure to familiarize yourself with the form ahead of time and note the relevant information while in the field, so that you have the info needed to fill out the form.*

Field Data Collection:

1. Download the Survey123 for ArcGIS app

- a. If you do not currently have the Survey123 app on your mobile device, For easy reference, use one of the following links to download the app, depending on your device's operating system.

Link to the Apple App Store:

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/survey123-for-arcgis/id993015031>

Link to the Google Play Store:

play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.esri.survey123

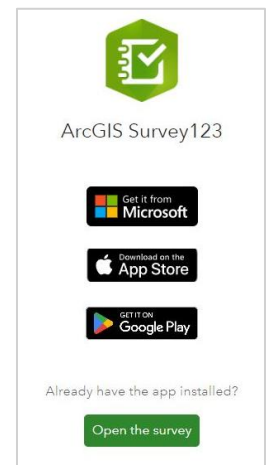
- b. After opening the Survey123 app for the first time, you do **not** need to click “Get Surveys” or sign-in to an ArcGIS Online Account – instead simply proceed to the next step (tap “**Continue without signing in**”). *Note: if you do have an ArcGIS Online account that you use, you are welcome to sign with it, it's just not necessary.*



2. Setup the iMap Survey Form

- a. Download the iMap form (once your Survey123 app is installed): open a web browser on the device and go the following the URL or QR code below:

<https://arcg.is/eyy0q0>



Web Browser:

Open this link in a web browser:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/531dbddbfbf847179d1c71d983a4414d>

Guidance for filling out the form

General guidance

- Required fields will have a red asterisk * next to them.
- Some fields will not appear until you've filled out a previous field. For instance, you must select between upland, wetland, aquatic, and mixed/other for the appropriate percent cover fields to appear.
- For data fields that appear as a blank white box, tap on the white box to start typing or select from a list of options.
- Things do appear slightly differently on the web version and the in-app version of the form – this instructions document mainly focuses on the in-app version.
- In general, we ask you to do your best filling out each required field and any relevant optional fields. Enter any additional information in the various “comments” data fields.
- **See the following pages for guidance on each data field** (*focusing on required fields and fields warranting explanation. Optional fields with straightforward names may be excluded*).

The screenshot shows a mobile app interface for the iMapInvasives form. It includes the following sections:

- Your email: *** with a text input field.
- Is this work funded by the NYSDEC Invasive Species Grant Program? *** with radio button options for "Yes" and "No".
- Select your organization: *** with a text input field and a dropdown menu. The dropdown is open, showing a search bar and a list of organizations: "Capital Region PRISM (CR-PRISM)", "Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP)", "City of Watertown", and "Finger Lakes Institute (FI) / FI PRISM".
- iMapInvasives Credentials** section with the text "Optional fields to fill out if known:" and three text input fields for "iMapInvasives Person ID", "iMapInvasives Organization ID", and "iMapInvasives Project ID".

A green checkmark icon is visible at the bottom right of the form.

User information

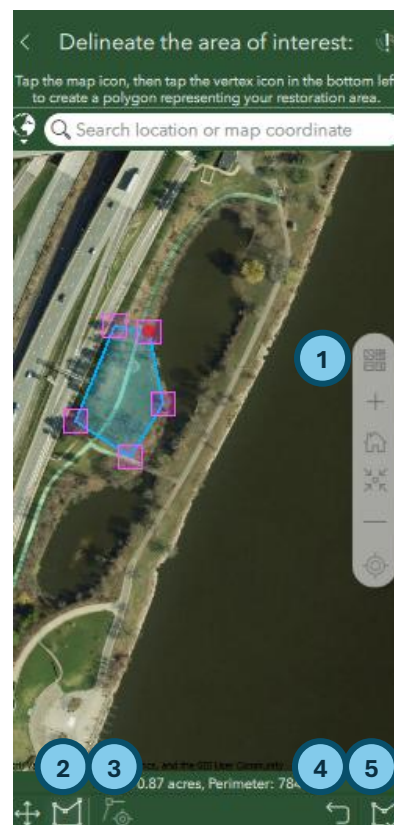
- Fill out your user information (name, email, your organization).
- **Optional:** If known, fill out any relevant iMapInvasives ID codes, to more seamlessly link your records to the appropriate iMap account, organization, and/or project when records are eventually added to iMap. *See second to last page for more guidance.*
- To avoid having to fill out this information by hand for future records, use the favorites feature (*see last page for more guidance*).

Restoration polygon

- Delineate the area where you are conducting restoration activities (ex. the section of land where you are planting native species into the ground).
 - If you are conducting separate plantings in discrete areas, you can collect those as separate records (ex. fill out the form for one planting and submit, open new survey and fill out the form for the next planting).
- In subsequent years, you will return to this location to collect data on the area to track change over time. For these records, you will delineate the area which you are assessing (which should be essentially the same as the initial restoration area polygon).
- Your polygon can generally be as simple or detailed as you find useful, but a typical polygon does not need more than 20 vertices, unless you are delineating a very large, complex area.

Instructions for drawing a polygon in the Survey123 App

1. Tap the map icon (📍) to pull up the map *[on the web version, the map will automatically display]*. If desired, you can switch the basemap (ex. satellite imagery) using the top icon on the righthand panel (“1” in screenshot).
2. At the bottom of the map, tap the polygon icon to start drawing your polygon (“2” in screenshot) *[on the web version, this is on the right-hand side of the map]*. You may either:
 - a. Tap the map to manually draw out each polygon.
 - b. Physically walk around the perimeter of the restoration area with your device, and tap the bullseye/crosshairs icon (“3” in screenshot) to drop vertices at your coordinate location, thus delineating your polygon based on your walking path
3. To edit/correct your polygon in the mobile app:
 - a. You can tap the back-arrow icon (bottom right) to undo previous vertices (“4” in screenshot).
4. Tap the polygon-with-check-mark icon, bottom right (“5” in screenshot).
 - a. To adjust vertices, tap the pencil icon (bottom left), and tap and drag a vertex to adjust.
 - b. To completely start over, tap the polygon icon at the bottom. There will be a pop-up to confirm that you want to redraw your polygon.
5. Tap the checkbox icon to complete your polygon and return back to the main form.



Site information (vegetation assessment, percent cover, etc.)

You will fill out “site information” for each record you submit (whether it is a record of baseline vegetation before your restoration, your initial restoration effort, or monitoring after your restoration effort).

Site Information	
Field Name	Description and tips
Site name*	Give your restoration area a unique name. This text, along with the polygon you will draw to delineate your site later in the form will help with connecting records in the same place over time.
Site visit date*	Enter the date corresponding to your vegetation assessment and percent cover estimates at this site.
Select focal invasive species*	Select one or more invasive species of concern (ex. species managed at this site, species driving impacts that your restoration project aims to address). To add more species, tap the Plus/Add button. Type-ahead: Rather than scrolling through the list, start typing the name of a species to pull it up faster.

Do you need to fill out a vegetation assessment?*	You must fill out a vegetation assessment once a year, to document vegetation shifts (ex. native and invasive cover) over time. If you have already filled out the vegetation assessment in a previous iMap Restoration record this year, you may select “No.
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Next, describe the vegetation at your restoration area. Collecting this information before your restoration planting and in subsequent years will allow for tracking change over time and help you assess efficacy in meeting your goals.

Vegetation Assessment	
Field Name	Description and tips
Ecosystem and community type*	Select the “System” category which best describes the area where you are conducting a restoration activity. You must make a selection for the appropriate percent cover fields to appear below. Note: “aquatic” is intended for sites where you are actively conducting restoration in water (ex. planting submersed aquatic vegetation in a lake). For projects conducted on a shoreline (ex. planting native shrubs on the land along a river), select between upland, wetland, and mixed/other. For terrestrial systems, you can then select the relevant plant cover type and landform type(s). For aquatic systems, you can then indicate the relevant waterbody type. <i>If you are conducting restoration across multiple very different community types (ex. planting trees and shrubs along a shoreline, and also planting submersed or floating aquatic plants in the adjacent water), we encourage you to submit these as separate records.</i>
Area of Percent Cover and Tree Count Estimates*	You can either provide an estimate for your entire restoration area, or you can provide estimates at multiple sampling locations within your restoration area. By default, “whole site estimate” is selected. Whole site estimate: This is the simplest option, where you enter percent cover estimates that reflect the entire area within your delineated polygon. Quadrat or partial site estimates: At some sites (ex. large project areas), it may be impractical to make percent cover estimates at the site level. You can instead conduct <i>multiple separate</i> percent cover and tree count estimates at <i>multiple locations within your site</i>. <i>See next pages for more explanation.</i>
Percent cover*	Estimate the percent of area within your polygon covered by native/non-invasive vegetation, any by invasive vegetation. Estimate separately for different layers of vegetation (ex. trees and shrubs above 6ft, vs plants below 6ft). <i>See next pages for mor explanation.</i>

Tree counts	Estimate the numbers of invasive and non-invasive trees (only counting trees where diameter-at-breast-height [DBH] is greater than 3 inches). <i>See next pages for more explanation.</i>
Vegetation comments	Here, you can list any other information not collected (ex. particular species that you want to note).

Invasive vs. native/non-invasive

You will enter separate percent cover and tree count estimates for two main categories of vegetation: invasive, and native/non-invasive. Collecting this information each year will allow you to evaluate vegetation shifts over time (ex. whether native vegetation is establishing, and whether invasive plants are re-establishing).

- **Native and non-invasive vegetation:** Any vegetation *excluding* the invasive plant species at your site. We don't expect data contributors to identify the species identity and origin for every plant you see. This category will include all native species, but may also include species which are not native but not considered invasive.
- **Invasive vegetation:** This includes any and all problematic invasive plant species in your restoration area. For guidance on which species should be considered invasive, please refer to the Invasive Species Tiers: <https://www.nynhp.org/invasives/species-tiers-table/>.

Quadrat or partial site estimate

If providing percent cover and tree count estimates for your entire polygon is impractical, you can instead collect these metrics in multiple smaller sampling areas within your larger area. For example:

- Setting up small plots throughout the larger area (ex. square plots, or “quadrats”) and conducting percent cover estimates for these areas individually. These plots are typically marked so that you can return to the exact same plot in subsequent years.
- More informal options include standing in one spot and looking out a certain distance in all directions or dividing your restoration area into a few sub-areas (ex. the southern half and the northern half).

If you select the *quadrat and partial site estimate* option, click the Add/plus icon that appears to add your first quadrat/partial site. Drop a point at the location of your first quadrat or partial site sampling (either tap the map or use the crosshairs icon to drop a point at your location). You must describe your sampling area (ex. provide the size of your quadrat, including units).

To add your next quadrat, tap the Add/Plus button.

Percent cover

Percent cover is a basic metric for assessing the relative abundance of certain types of plant species. In this form, percent cover is defined as a visual estimate of the percent of 2-dimensional space (horizontal area) occupied by each type of vegetation (i.e. imagining if you took a picture from above). *This should be assessed during the growing season, when foliage is present.*

You will fill out **percent cover** estimates separately for the following vegetation layers:

- Terrestrial vegetation layers:**

- **Woody plants (trees/shrubs) ABOVE 6 feet**

- All woody plants above 6 feet (*can include woody vines above 6ft high, ex. bittersweet or grape*)

- **Herbaceous (any height) & woody plants BELOW 6 feet**

- All herbaceous (non-woody*) plants, regardless of height. *There may be herbaceous plants above 6ft (ex. Phragmites), but they still fall in this category since they are not trees/shrubs.*
- Any woody plants shorter than 6 feet (ex. young tree saplings, short shrubs, young woody vines)

- Aquatic vegetation layers:

- **Water surface (floating & emergent plants).**

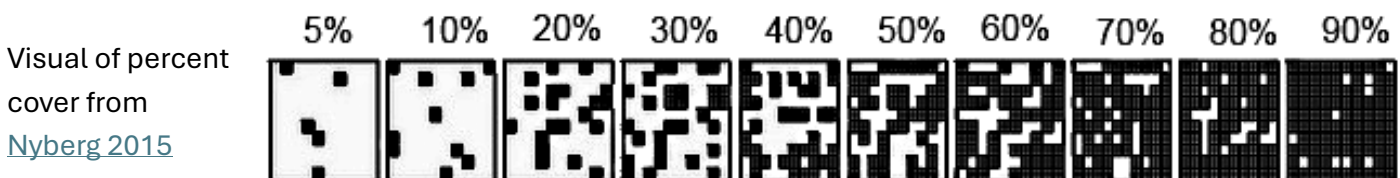
- **Underwater (submersed vegetation).**

**If you are unsure whether a plant is woody (tree/shrub) or nonwoody/herbaceous, examine the stem at the base of the plant. Herbaceous plants typically have soft green stems while woody plants have stiff stems covered in protective bark (except for new green growth).

If there is no vegetation in one of the layers at your site, set that percent cover estimate to zero. For example, if you are restoring a grassland with no trees/shrubs above 6 feet, select 0% cover for both the invasive and native/non-invasive “Woody plants (trees/shrubs) ABOVE 6 feet” percent cover estimates.

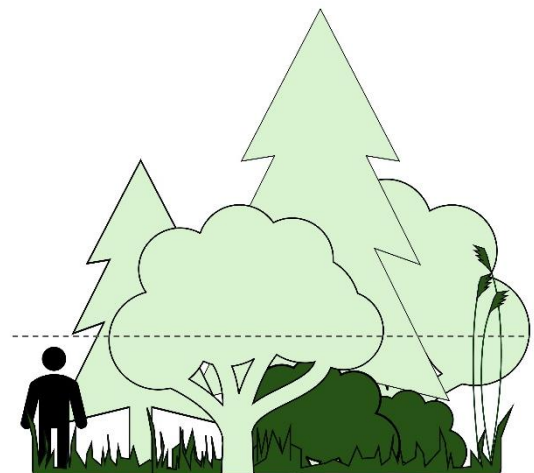
Note: **Percent cover estimates for each layer and vegetation type do NOT have to total to 100%**

- Totals may be greater than 100% because of plants overlapping.
- Totals may be less than 100% if there is unvegetated area (ex. canopy gaps, sections of bare soil or leaf litter without vegetation).



Visual of categorizing plants into 2 layers for percent cover estimate:

1. Trees and shrubs reaching above the imaginary 6ft line are reflected in the **Woody plants (trees/shrubs) ABOVE 6ft** (light green).
2. Smaller shrubs (and tree seedlings/saplings) falling below the imaginary 6ft line, as well as all the non-woody plants (most of which are below 6ft, except a tall reed grass) are included in the estimates for **Herbaceous (any height) and woody plants BELOW 6ft** (dark green). *Note: trunks and branches of tall trees/shrubs falling below 6ft are **not** included here.*



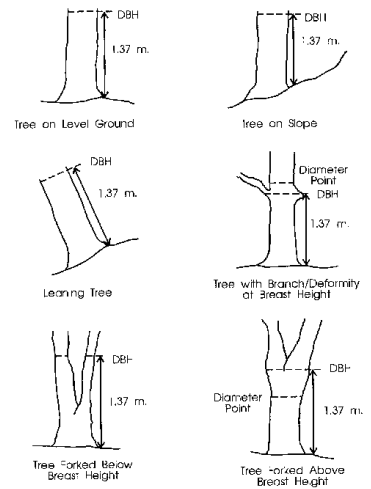
Tree count

Count of individual plants can be more precise than percent cover estimates, but are often only practical for large plants like trees (excluding saplings), and exact accounts can be difficult.

Therefore, you will count the number of trees where the trunk is wider than 3-inches at breast height (4.5 feet from the ground, or 3.7 meters). This is called diameter-at-breast-height, or DBH.

Rather than entering an exact count, you will select an estimated range.

This can all be assessed by visual estimate (ex. you can eyeball 3-in DBH rather than measuring, and if your site has many (>50) trees you can estimate rather than literally counting every tree).



(Miller et al 1996)

Restoration activity

If you are conducting restoration activities at the time of your survey record (ex. planting native species), tap the Add/Plus button to document that activity.

Restoration Activity	
Field Name	Description and tips
Restoration activity start* and end date	List the date range over which restoration occurred this year (ex. the first and last days of a restoration planting). End date is optional.
Restoration goals*	Select which goals best apply to your project and provide any other details you'd like to document in the following Comments field.
Restoration goals comments	
Restoration Method*	Select "Native species planting" to document a planting effort. <i>There will be data fields to document activities related to the planting (ex. installing deer fencing around the planting, erosion control measures before planting). See next for more details.</i> Select "Other" if you are conducting a restoration effort that does <u>not</u> involve active planting (ex. installing a deer enclosure or performing prescribed burns and relying on passive restoration). <i>Skip to bottom of next page for more details.</i>

If you selected **Other**, select the most relevant method(s) and provide as much detail as is practical.

Non-Planting Restoration Activity	
Field Name	Description and tips
Non-planting restoration method*	Select any methods used, or “other” to indicate an unlisted activity.
Comments*	Describe your activity, with as much detail as is needed. Examples include linear feet of herbivory fencing or erosion control used, and target species removed and target basal area for forest thinning.

If you selected **Native Species Planting**, fill out information to describe your planting effort.

Native Species Planting	
Field Name	Description and tips
Site preparations	Describe any site prep conducted before planting (ex. brush-hogging, erosion control measures). Note: invasive species removals can be mentioned here if you’d like, but such efforts should be documented as iMap treatments in classic iMap tools.
Protection added	Select any relevant options, leave blank if you are not using any of the listed protection.
Additives	Select any relevant options, leave blank if you are not using any additives.
Sources of plants/seed	Indicate whether you collected your plants/seed from the wild or obtained them from a nursery or other source (and list out those sources).
Provenance*	“Provenance” refers to the original geographic location of source wild populations from which the plants derive. For example, if you purchased saplings from a local greenhouse, were those brought to the greenhouse from another region, or grown from locally collected seeds? Select multiple if you have plant material from various provenances (ex. a combination of tree saplings from a conservation seed supply and seed you collected onsite). Include ‘unknown’ in your selections you are unsure, or if the provenance was not disclosed to you for any of your planted species. Further describe in the comments field (ex. which ecoregion).
Tree tracker	In support of the 25 Million Trees Initiative , the NYSDEC is tracking trees planted in New York. Indicate whether you plan to separately report your efforts to their survey form , or if you’d like NYNHP to summarize the info from your iMap Restoration record and submit it on your behalf.
Photo	Photo of your native planting effort.
Native planting comments	Capture any other relevant information not addressed in the fields above, that you would like to record.

Next: Document basic information on each species you plant. Tap the Add (plus) icon to add species (see next).

Planted Species Information	
Field Name	Description and tips
Species planted*	Select from a list of >900 native plant species, following the NY Flora Atlas for scientific and common names. Type-ahead: Rather than scrolling through the list, start typing the name of a species to pull it up faster. This list includes species from the NYNHP Species Selection Tool (native plant species considered characteristic of major community types in New York), with additional aquatic plant species. If there is no listed option that matches the species you are planting, please select the first option (Other, not listed), and explain in the Planted species comments.
Plant material type*	Select the type of plant material used for this species. If you used multiple for this species (ex. you planted 10 plugs of New England Aster, and you also spread 5 ounces of seed), submit this as two separate species entries (fill out info for one plant material type, then tap the Add/Plus icon to add another).
Planting method	Select the appropriate planting method (ex. “mechanical support” if you are planting into augured/drilled holes). <i>This will not appear until you have selected a plant material type.</i>
Number planted*	For grown plants , indicate the number planted for each species. <i>This will not appear until you have selected a plant material type.</i>
Describe the quantity of seeds planted*	For seed , describe the quantity to the best of your ability using a <u>number and units</u> of your choosing (ex. “10 packets”, “15 oz”).
Planted species comments	Enter any other relevant information you would like to capture for this species.

Tap the Add/Plus icon to add each additional species you planted.

Post-planting monitoring

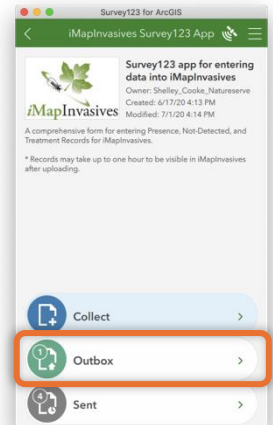
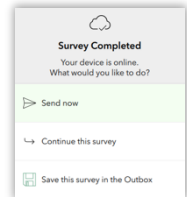
Coming 2027: a new section of the form will be added where you can report back on the success of native species plantings, including estimates of survivorship and condition of planted species. The vegetation assessment section detailed above will capture broad-level shifts in vegetation, but we will also provide additional metrics to more specifically track the success or failure of planted species. This information will help with planning restoration plantings across the state moving forward. Metrics may include:

- Out of the species you originally planted, which ones are you able to find alive onsite during return visits.
- Estimate numbers of surviving planted individuals (likely most practical for planted trees).
- Qualitative descriptors of the abundance and/or condition of surviving planted individuals.

Submitting your records

Once the record is complete, click the Check icon at the bottom right of the survey form.

- The survey form will be validated for errors (ex. required data fields that are incomplete).
- If connected to the internet and the form passes validation, it can either be uploaded immediately or saved to the **Outbox** (which queues records for later upload).
- If offline, the validated record can only be saved to the Outbox.
- **Be sure to eventually upload records from the outbox, once connected to the internet:**
 - Return to the main **iMap Restoration** from menu and select the **Outbox**, where the records pending upload will be visible. To upload all records pending upload at once, select the **Send** button.



Accessing and viewing submitted data

All records you submit via Survey123 will go into ArcGIS online, a cloud-based Geographic Information System (GIS) platform developed by Esri.

There are two main ways you can view your collected data:

1. You can view data submitted within this web map:
<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?webmap=3e15eff283b349829c01243c932a4773>
2. If you are using the Survey123 app, you may be able to view submitted records in the “Sent” folder (underneath the “Collect” and “Outbox” options. Please note that this is mainly for viewing purposes, rather than editing).

If you need to modify and/or re-submit a record, please contact imapinvasives@dec.ny.gov.

Your records are also intended to be imported into the iMapInvasives online interface, where you will be able to view your restoration data alongside invasive species records when logged in.

For any questions, contact:
imapinvasives@dec.ny.gov

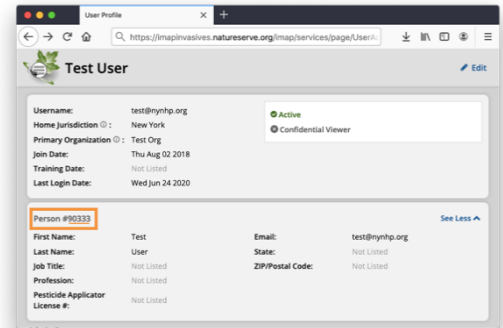
General usage tips

- Utilize the **Favorite Answers** feature after you have completed the **General Questions** section. This will save time and avoid the need to type your basic information every time you create a survey. See *next page for details*.
- Determine your **Person ID** before using the survey form by signing into or creating your free account from a web browser at: imapinvasives.org.

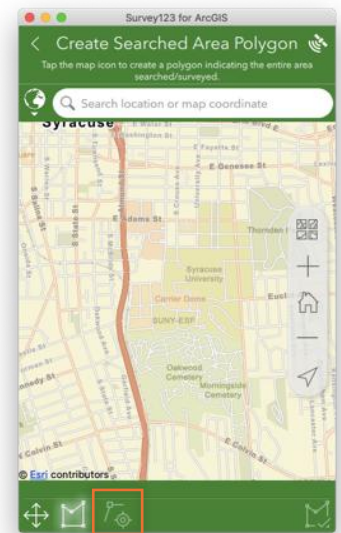
Then select the main menu at the top left and select **Your Account**. Your Person ID will be visible on this page.

For example, in the screenshot (right), Person ID is 90333.

If you are using organizations or projects, you should determine your Organization and Project ID codes. Scroll down on **Your Account** page and click on the relevant organization and/or project. The ID code is the digits at the end of the URL on the page that opens (ex. 788 in screenshot to right).



- Required Fields Error Message:** If you tap the “+” button to create a new focal species, planted species, restoration activity, etc. you are required to fill out species and other key fields to submit your record. If you have changed your mind (ex. you started adding a new focal species to see what it would look like, but then decided not to use it), be sure to delete the record you started by tapping the trash can icon underneath.
- Tips when using the **Complex Data Collection** option:
 - Create a Searched Area polygon that is large enough to contain the Presence, Not Detected, and Treatment areas.
 - Once a Searched Area polygon is created, it can be utilized as the Presence polygon and/or Treatment polygon. See specific instructions above for more details.
 - Treatment target species should have an intersecting Presence record for the same species. If you are not certain if a Presence record already exists in iMapInvasives for the treatment target species, please create an accompanying Presence record in Survey123.
 - Utilize GPS for polygons or polylines: When creating a line or polygon, your current GPS location can be utilized to create a vertex at your current location. To do so, select the icon of a target accompanying a vertex (circled in orange in screenshot).

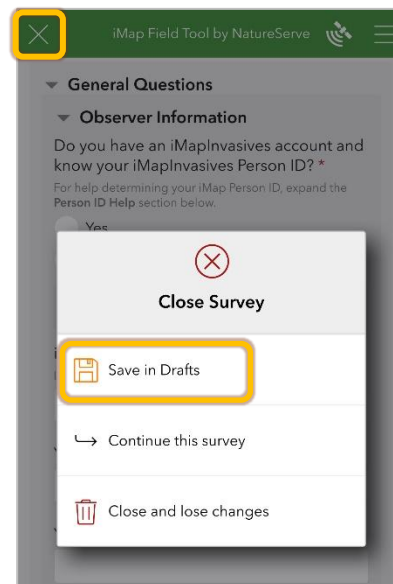
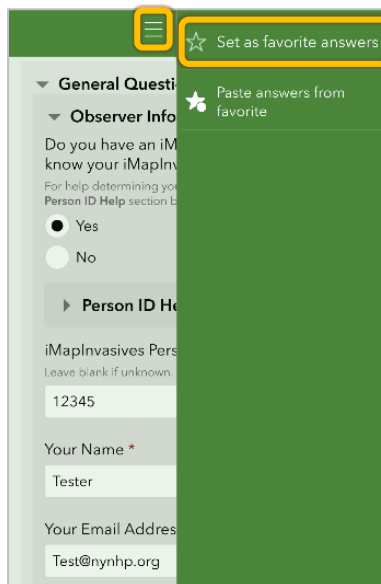


Utilizing the “Favorites” Feature

To save certain information (ex. Person ID) so that you do not need to re-enter the same data each time you start a new record, set **favorite answers** in a new survey and **save as a draft**:

1. Start a new survey, and populate fields you expect to be consistent among all records you will submit.*
2. Open the menu by tapping the icon in the upper right corner.
3. Select **Set as favorite answers**.
4. Tap the **X** in the upper left of the survey.
5. Select **Save this survey in Drafts**.

* We recommend only setting favorite answers for fields in the **User Information** section.



Now you are ready to populate any new surveys with your saved favorite answers:

1. Start a new survey.
2. Open the menu by tapping the icon in the upper right corner.
3. Choose **Paste answers from favorite**.
4. Your previously specified answers will now be populated in the survey.

For more information on using the **Favorites** feature, see the section of this Esri support document titled *Favorite answers*:

<https://doc.arcgis.com/en/survey123/desktop/create-surveys/prepopulateanswers.htm>

For any questions, contact:

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