

INVASIVE PLANTS

WATCH OUT FOR THESE WICKED WEEDS

in·va·sive
plant species

Non-native plants that escape and damage the environment. Invasive plants are introduced by people either accidentally or on purpose into a region far from their native habitat.

WHAT MAKES A PLANT INVASIVE?

Invasive plants have been introduced into an environment in which they did not originate. They lack natural enemies, grow and reproduce quickly and are able to thrive in a wide variety of conditions. These characteristics allow plants to invade new habitats and out-compete natives, resulting in dense thickets of a single plant species. Many invasive plants are adapted to disturbed areas such as construction sites, roadways and farmland.

WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

Dense thickets of invasive plants limit native plant diversity. This reduces food and shelter for wildlife. Invasive plants are the second leading cause of species extinction.

Invasive plants cost us over \$137 billion per year by damaging forests, property values, agricultural productivity and outdoor recreation.



COMMON INVASIVE SPECIES

trees



Bradford (Callery) Pear
Pyrus calleryana



Norway Maple
Acer platanoides



Mimosa (Silk) Tree
Albizia julibrissin



White Mulberry
Morus alba

shrubs



Japanese Barberry
Berberis thunbergii



Linden Viburnum
Viburnum dilatatum



Winged Burning Bush
Euonymus alatus



Bush (Amur) Honeysuckle
Lonicera maackii

herbaceous



Fig Buttercup
Ficaria verna Huds



Garlic Mustard
Alliaria petiolata



Common Daylily
Hemerocallis fulva



Canada Thistle
Cirsium arvense

vines



Common Periwinkle
Vinca minor



English Ivy
Hedera helix



Winter Creeper
Euonymus fortunei



Kudzu
Pueraria montana



Learn more about these wicked weeds and what you can do to remove and replace them with native plants <https://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/pubs/midatlantic/index.htm>