



Know them—don't grow them

The list below includes the most common invasive plants in New England. The highlighted plants are still widely available through nurseries, catalogs, and the internet.

For a more complete list of invasive species, state-by-state lists of prohibited invasive plants, recommended alternatives, and information about removing invasive plants, visit www.newenglandwild.org/protect/invasive-plants.

- Autumn olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*)
- **Bishop's weed (*Aegopodium podagraria*)**
- **Blunt-leaved privet (*Ligustrum obtusifolium*)**
- **Burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*)**
- Common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*)
- Common reed (*Phragmites australis*)
- Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)
- Glossy buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*)
- Himalayan jewelweed (*Impatiens glandulifera*)
- **Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*)**
- **Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*)**
- Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*)
- Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*)
- Mile-a-minute vine (*Persicaria perfoliatum*)
- Multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*)
- **Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*)**
- Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)
- **Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)**
- Swallow-worts (*Cynanchum louiseae* and *C. rossicum*)
- **Shrub-like honeysuckles (*Lonicera morrowii*, *L. x bella*, *L. maackii*, and *L. tatarica*)**
- Water chestnut (*Trapa natans*)
- Water-milfoils (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*, *M. heterophyllum*, and *M. spicatum*)
- **Yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)**



Japanese honeysuckle
(*Lonicera japonica*)



Multiflora rose
(*Rosa multiflora*)



Japanese barberry
(*Berberis thunbergii*)

NEW ENGLAND
WILD
FLOWER
SOCIETY



Founded in 1900, New England Wild Flower Society is the oldest plant conservation organization in the United States. The Society conserves and promotes the region's native plants to ensure healthy, biologically diverse landscapes.

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invasive plants

WHAT ARE INVASIVE PLANTS?

Some non-native plant species become “overachievers,” thriving in their new habitats without the insects and diseases that would normally control their growth. Once established in natural areas, they outcompete native species and become a major threat to native habitats. Some invasive plants have escaped from our home gardens and public plantings into natural areas and cause profound environmental and economic damage.

Each state has developed a list of problematic plants. Some are even illegal to sell. Please learn about the species considered invasive in your area, generate a list of the invasives on your property, and create a plan for eliminating them.



Bishop's weed
(*Aegopodium podagraria*)

invasive plants



Norway maple
(*Acer platanoides*)



Autumn olive
(*Elaeagnus umbellata*)



Multiflora rose
(*Rosa multiflora*)



Glossy buckthorn
(*Frangula alnus*)



Burning bush
(*Euonymus alatus*)



Blunt-leaved privet
(*Ligustrum obtusifolium*)



Yellow flag iris
(*Iris pseudacorus*)



Shrub-like honeysuckle
(*Lonicera morrowii*, *L. x bella*,
L. maackii, and *L. tatarica*)



Bishop's weed or gout weed
(*Aegopodium podagraria*)



Oriental bittersweet
(*Celastrus orbiculatus*)

native alternatives

These alternatives provide the same color and texture as the invasive species, while also providing important food and habitat for insects and birds.



Red maple (*Acer rubrum*)
replaces Norway maple



Bayberry (*Morella spp.*)
replaces autumn olive



Climbing prairie rose (*Rosa setigera*)
replaces multiflora rose



Alternate-leaved dogwood
(*Swida [Cornus] alternifolia*)
replaces glossy buckthorn



Highbush blueberry
(*Vaccinium corymbosum*)
replaces burning bush



Inkberry holly (*Ilex glabra*)
replaces blunt-leaved privet



Blue flag iris (*Iris versicolor*)
replaces yellow flag iris



Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*)
replaces shrub-like honeysuckle



Golden Alexander
(*Zizia aurea*)
replaces bishop's weed



Trumpet creeper
(*Campsis radicans*)
replaces oriental bittersweet

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Learn which plants are invasive in your state.
- Purchase and grow only non-invasive plants.
- Ask your local nursery or garden shop to stop selling invasive plants.
- Inform your community about invasive plants.
- Get your garden club involved.
- Make an invasive plant display for your elementary school and library.
- Volunteer to help control invasive plants in your region.
- Take a class on invasives.
(www.newenglandwild.org/learn)
- Educate your neighbors to avoid repeated infestations on your property.
- Join New England Wild Flower Society to support native plant conservation.

CONTROLLING INVASIVE PLANTS

- **Pull and dig** herbaceous plants with woody stems less than 1" diameter
- **Use a weed wrench** for stems up to 3" diameter. This device pulls the plant, roots, and suckers.
- **Cut and mow** continually to remove as much leafy material as possible. This interrupts the plant's ability to photosynthesize.
- **Use biological controls** for purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*). The USDA has approved the Galerucella beetle for *L. salicaria* control. This beetle is very specific to this plant and will travel great distances to find it.
- **Dispose of invasives properly.** Put cuttings in a black plastic trash bag and let sit in the sun for 4-6 weeks, then dispose of trash bags. Never put cuttings of invasives into your compost pile or your town's compost.
- For **chemical treatments**, please consult www.newenglandwild.org. Treatments for plants near wetlands are especially troublesome to the environment and should be undertaken only under the supervision of a certified professional.