



Invasive Ornamental Plants

Did you know roughly half of the most serious invasive plants in our region arrived by way of our gardens? For over a century, we've scoured the world for beautiful garden plants. Now we know to be more careful in our plant selections. Birds, butterflies, and other wildlife depend on specific plants for habitat (native plants); when garden plants colonize natural areas, the world becomes a little less wild. Shop with or hire garden professionals that have committed not to sell high priority invasive plants - visit HabitatMatters.org, and click on "Go Beyond Beauty."

Below are two lists of invasive ornamental plants, broken down according to threat level and commonality in landscapes. **The first page (List 1) lists high threat plants; these are plants Go Beyond Beauty garden professionals statewide have agreed to remove from sales (including all cultivars).** For plants in Lists 2 (Awareness), disuse is not a requirement of the program, but we strongly recommend exploring alternatives.

1. High-Priority Invasive Ornamentals		
The ornamental plants below are among the most serious threats to natural areas Michigan, or those that are not yet common in our state which have proven highly invasive in other areas. Avoid planting these species (<i>including all cultivars!</i>) and take appropriate steps to ensure that plants in your garden do not impact surrounding natural areas. Our efforts as a community to minimize new plantings and manage existing populations now will help decrease future risk throughout Michigan.		
Common Name	Latin Name	Form
Japanese barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> (all cultivars)	Shrub
invasive bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	Vine
glossy buckthorn	<i>Frangula alnus</i> could also be listed under <i>Rhamnus frangula</i> (all cultivars)	shrub
baby's breath	<i>Gypsophila paniculata</i>	Forb
dame's rocket	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Forb
blue lyme grass	<i>Leymus arenarius</i>	Grass
non-native bush honeysuckles	<i>Lonicera fragrantissima</i> , <i>L. maackii</i> , <i>L. morrowii</i> , <i>L. tatarica</i> , <i>L. xbella</i> , <i>L. xylosteum</i>	Shrub
Japanese honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Vine
moneywort / creeping Jenny	<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Forb
ribbon grass (aka reed canary grass)	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Grass
common buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> (all cultivars)	Shrub
Callery/Bradford/Cleveland pear	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Tree
water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Aquatic
water lettuce	<i>Pistea stratiotes</i>	Aquatic

The Northwest Michigan Invasive Species Network (ISN) is a Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) which works directly with over 60 partners in Benzie, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, and Manistee counties to protect, enhance, and promote northwest Michigan's natural communities through terrestrial invasive plant management and outreach. It is currently funded through grants from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) and the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (MISGP), as well as private donations. Learn more at www.HabitatMatters.org.

2. Awareness: Ornamental Invasives

The plants listed below are commonly planted in ornamental landscapes and are either invasive in our state, may become increasingly invasive over time, or are no longer commonly planted but still spread from ornamental landscapes. Explore alternative options for future plantings. When appropriate for your site and budget, replace these plants with alternative options to reduce future spread. We recommend use of a diversity of native plants to create more habitat for wildlife.

Trees, Shrubs and Vines

Common Name	Latin Name	Form
Amur maple	<i>Acer ginnala</i>	Tree
Norway maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Tree
black alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> or <i>A. vulgaris</i> , <i>Betula alnus</i>	Tree
porcelain berry	<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i>	Vine
butterfly bush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	Shrub
common barberry	<i>Berberis vulgaris</i> or <i>B. sylvestris</i>	Shrub
burning bush / winged wahoo	<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	Shrub
wintercreeper	<i>Euonymus fortunei</i>	Vine
English ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	Vine
orange day lily	<i>Hemerocallis fulva</i>	Forb
yellow flag iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Forb
Japanese hops	<i>Humulus japonicus</i>	Vine
common/border privets	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> , <i>L. obtusifolium</i>	Shrub
white mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i>	Tree
Amur cork-tree	<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	Tree
Austrian/black pine	<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Tree
Scotch pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Tree
black jetbead	<i>Rhodotypos scandens</i>	Shrub
Himalayan blackberry	<i>Rubus bifrons</i>	Shrub
Lombardy poplar	<i>Populus nigra</i> var. <i>italica</i>	Tree
wayfaring tree	<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	Shrub
black locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Tree
Siberian elm	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Tree
European highbush cranberry	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Shrub
bigleaf periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>	Vine
myrtle / periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor</i>	Vine



Forbs and Grasses		
Common Name	Latin Name	Form
snow-on-the-mountain/bishop's goutweed	<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	Forb
lily-of-the-valley	<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	Forb
sweet woodruff	<i>Galium odoratum</i>	Forb
reed manna grass	<i>Glyceria maxima</i>	Grass
common St. John's wort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Forb
money plant / annual honesty	<i>Lunaria annua</i>	Forb
Chinese/giant silvergrass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis, M. floridulus</i>	Grass
garden forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i>	Forb
butterbur	<i>Petasites hybridus, P. japonicus</i>	Forb
lesser-celandine	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Forb