

DCNR Invasive Plant List

DCNR defines invasive plants as those species that are not native to the state, grow aggressively, and spread and displace native vegetation. Invasive plants are generally undesirable because they are difficult and costly to control and can dominate whole habitats, making them environmentally destructive in certain situations. Not all non-native plants become invasive. In fact, very few actually do. The plants listed here have been determined by DCNR to be invasive on State Forest and State Park lands and may act aggressively in other parts of Pennsylvania. Some of the species listed below are only invasive in certain environmental conditions and there may be cases where they may be used with little environmental risk. This list was compiled through coordinated efforts between ecologists in Pennsylvania and other natural resource partners. New species cross state borders and some plants that have been here for decades may suddenly become invasive due to changing land uses, changes in weather or climate, or genetic reasons, so this list may change over time and will be updated periodically. **This list is not regulatory.** It is used to guide the management efforts of DCNR lands because of knowledge that these species can become invasive under the right environmental conditions. To learn more about invasive plants in Pennsylvania and how they can be controlled, visit www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/plants/invasiveplants/index.htm.

Invasive plant species have been ranked in terms of the threat they pose to native plant communities. Each rank is defined below:

Rank 1- Severe Threat. Exotic plant species that possess characteristics of invasive species and spread easily into native plant communities and displace native vegetation. Includes species that are or could become widespread in Pennsylvania.

Rank 2- Significant Threat. Exotic plant species that possess characteristics of invasive species but are not presently considered to spread as easily and aggressively into native plant communities as those species listed as Rank 1.

Rank 3- Lesser Threat. Exotic plant species that spread in or near disturbed areas, and are not presently considered a major threat to undisturbed native plant communities.

Watch List- Exotic plant species that are severe problems in surrounding states but have not been widely reported in Pennsylvania, OR may naturalize and become a problem in the future and require more monitoring.

Vines

Scientific Name	Common Name	Rank
<i>Ampelopsis glandulosa</i>	Porcelain Berry	1
<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	Oriental Bittersweet	1
<i>Humulus japonicus</i>	Japanese Hops	1
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese Honeysuckle	1
<i>Persicaria perfoliata</i>	Mile-a-Minute	1
<i>Pueraria montana var. lobata</i>	Kudzu	1
<i>Vincetoxicum nigrum</i>	Black Swallow-Wort	1
<i>Vincetoxicum rossicum</i>	Pale Swallow-Wort	1
<i>Euonymus fortunei</i>	Wintercreeper	2
<i>Wisteria floribunda</i>	Japanese Wisteria	2
<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Chinese Wisteria	2
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English Ivy	3
<i>Vinca major</i>	Bigleaf Periwinkle	3
<i>Vinca minor</i>	Common Periwinkle	3
<i>Akebia quinata</i>	Chocolate Vine	Watch
<i>Clematis terniflora</i>	Japanese Clematis	Watch
<i>Dioscorea polystacha</i>	Chinese Yam	Watch

Herbs and Forbs

Scientific Name	Common Name	Rank
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic Mustard	1
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	Poison Hemlock	1
<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	Japanese Knotweed	1
<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i>	Giant Knotweed	1
<i>Fallopia X bohemica</i>	Hybrid Knotweed	1
<i>Ficaria verna</i>	Lesser Celandine	1
<i>Galega officinalis</i>	Goatsrue	1
<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	Giant Hogweed	1
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple Loosestrife	1
<i>Centaurea jacea</i>	Brown Knapweed	2
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Black Knapweed	2
<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>	Spotted Knapweed	2
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Greater Celandine	2
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada Thistle	2
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Bull Thistle	2
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dames Rocket	2
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Flag Iris	2
<i>Lespedeza bicolor</i>	Shrubby Bushclover	2
<i>Lespedeza cuneata</i>	Chinese Bushclover	2
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	Wild Parsnip	2
<i>Perilla frutescens</i>	Beefsteak Plant	2
<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i>	Wineberry	2
<i>Securigera varia</i>	Crown-vetch	2
<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	Goutweed	3
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Wild Chervil	3
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort	3
<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	Flowering Rush	3
<i>Cardamine impatiens</i>	Narrowleaf Bittercress	3
<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>	Spiny Plumeless Thistle	3
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Musk Thistle	3
<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Jimsonweed	3
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Hairy Willow Herb	3
<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>	Smallflower Hairy Willow-Herb	3
<i>Hemerocallis fulva</i>	Orange Day-Lily	3
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Moneywort	3
<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>	Japanese Pachysandra	3
<i>Persicaria longiseta</i>	Bristled Knotweed	3
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed	3
<i>Amaranthus palmeri</i>	Palmer Amaranth	Watch

Trees

Scientific Name	Common Name	Rank
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree-of-Heaven	1
<i>Aralia elata</i>	Japanese Angelica Tree	1
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway Maple	2
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Mimosa	2
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	European Black Alder	2
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	Empress Tree	2
<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	Amur Corktree	2
<i>Phellodendron japonicum</i>	Japanese Corktree	2
<i>Phellodendron lavallei</i>	Lavella Corktree	2
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Callery Pear	2
<i>Tetradium daniellii</i>	Bee-Bee Tree	2
<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i>	Paper Mulberry	3
<i>Morus alba</i>	White Mulberry	3
<i>Acer ginnala</i>	Amur Maple	Watch
<i>Acer palmatum</i>	Japanese Maple	Watch
<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	Golden Rain-Tree	Watch
<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	Sawtooth Oak	Watch
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Siberian Elm	Watch

Grasses

Scientific Name	Common Name	Rank
<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>	Japanese Stiltgrass	1
<i>Oplismenus hirtellus</i>	Wavyleaf Basketgrass	1
<i>Phragmites australis ssp australis</i>	Common Reed	1
<i>Arthraxon hispidus</i>	Small carpetgrass	2
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed Canary Grass	2
<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i>	Golden Bamboo	2
<i>Phyllostachys aureosulcata</i>	Yellow Groove Bamboo	2
<i>Phyllostachys bambusoides</i>	Giant Timber Bamboo	2
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Bluegrass	2
<i>Bromus japonicus</i>	Japanese brome	3
<i>Bromus sterilis</i>	Poverty Brome	3
<i>Bromus tectorum</i>	Cheatgrass	3
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Velvetgrass	3
<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Chinese Silvergrass	3
<i>Schedonorus arundinaceus</i>	Tall Fescue	3
<i>Sorghum bicolor ssp. x. drummondii</i>	Shattercane	3
<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	Johnson Grass	Watch
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed	Watch
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>	Cogon Grass	Watch
<i>Tripsidium ravennae</i>	Ravenna Grass	Watch

Shrubs

Scientific Name	Common Name	Rank
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	Japanese Barberry	1
<i>Berberis vulgaris</i>	European Barberry	1
<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Glossy Buckthorn	1
<i>Lonicera fragrantissima</i>	Sweet Breath Honeysuckle	1
<i>Lonicera maackii</i>	Amur Honeysuckle	1
<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>	Morrow's Honeysuckle	1
<i>Lonicera morrowii x bella</i>	Beautiful Honeysuckle	1
<i>Lonicera standishii</i>	Standish Honeysuckle	1
<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>	Tartarian Honeysuckle	1
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	Common Buckthorn	1
<i>Rhodotypos scandens</i>	Jetbead	1
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	Multiflora Rose	1
<i>Spiraea japonica</i>	Japanese Spiraea	1
<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	Butterfly Bush	2
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian Olive	2
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	Autumn Olive	2
<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	Winged Euonymus	2
<i>Ligustrum japonicum</i>	Japanese Privet	2
<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i>	Border Privet	2
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Chinese Privet	2
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Common Privet	2
<i>Viburnum dilatatum</i>	Linden Viburnum	2
<i>Viburnum plicatum</i>	Doublefile Viburnum	2
<i>Viburnum sieboldii</i>	Siebold Viburnum	2
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose	3

Aquatic

Scientific Name	Common Name	Rank
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	Hydrilla	1
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	Parrot feather watermilfoil	1
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian Watermilfoil	1
<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	Curly Pondweed	1
<i>Trapa natans</i>	European Water Chestnut	1
<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	Narrow-Leaved Cattail	1
<i>Typha x glauca</i>	Hybrid Cattail	1
<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	Carolina Fanwort	3
<i>Egeria densa</i>	Brazilian Water-Weed	3
<i>Najas minor</i>	Brittle Waternymph	3
<i>Nitellopsis obtusa</i>	Starry Stonewort	3
<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>	Common Frogbit	Watch
<i>Ludwigia grandiflora ssp. Hexapetala</i>	Large Flower Primrose Willow High	Watch
<i>Nymphaoides peltata</i>	Yellow Floatingheart	Watch