



NON-NATIVE INVASIVE PLANTS OF ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

While up to 40% of the plants found in a typical urban environment are non-native species, a relatively small number of these “alien” plants are known to represent an ecological threat to the natural environment (parks, woodlands, and backyards). Known as “invasive exotic species”, these non-natives will spread from urban plantings into natural areas, eliminate native species, alter natural plant communities, and degrade the environment. The following plants have been documented as invasive exotic species in Arlington. Known invasive exotic plant species should not be planted as part of any Arlington County sponsored project. This list will be periodically reviewed by the Invasive Exotic Plant Coordinator (PRCR) and updated by Version (date).

Invasive Plant Species List

Akebia, Five-leaf	<i>Akebia quinata</i>
Autumn Olive	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>
Bamboo, Common	<i>Bambusa vulgaris</i>
Bamboo, Golden	<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i>
Bamboo, Arrow	<i>Pseudosasa japonica</i>
Barberry, Japanese	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>
Beefsteak Plant	<i>Perilla frutescens</i>
Burning Bush	<i>Euonymus alatus</i>
Cherry, Weeping (Higan)	<i>Prunus subhirtella</i>
Cherry, Yoshino	<i>Prunus yedoensis</i>
Chinese Silvergrass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>
Clematis, Sweet Autumn	<i>Clematis ternifolia</i>
Common Reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>
Crabapple, Japanese	<i>Malus floribunda</i>
Crabapple, Siberian	<i>Malus baccata</i>
Crabapple, Tea	<i>Malus hupehensis</i>
Daffodil	<i>Narcissus sp.</i>
Day Lily, Common	<i>Hemerocallis fulva</i>
Elaeagnus, Thorny	<i>Elaeagnus pungens</i>
Euonymus, Creeping	<i>Euonymus fortunei</i>
Garlic Mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
Golden Rain Tree	<i>Koelerinteria paniculata</i> *
Gooseberry, Alien	<i>Ribes sp.</i>
Ground Ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>
Holly, Japanese	<i>Ilex crenata</i>
Honeysuckle, Bush	<i>Lonicera maackii</i>

Honeysuckle, Bush	<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>
Honeysuckle, Japanese	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>
Hops, Japanese	<i>Humulus japonicus</i>
Indian Strawberry	<i>Duchesnea indica</i>
Italian Arum	<i>Arum italicum</i>
Ivy, English	<i>Hedera sp.</i>
Japanese Stiltgrass	<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>
Java Dropwort	<i>Oenanthe javanica</i>
Jetbead	<i>Rhodotypos scandens</i>
Jointgrass, Hairy	<i>Arthraxon hispidus</i>
Knotweed, Japanese	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>
Kudzu	<i>Pueraria montana</i>
Lesser Celandine	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>
Lily-turf	<i>Liriope muscari</i> **
Liriope, Creeping	<i>Liriope spicata</i>
Mahonia, Leatherleaf	<i>Mahonia bealei</i>
Maple, Japanese	<i>Acer palmatum</i>
Maple, Norway	<i>Acer platanoides</i>
Mile-a-minute Weed	<i>Persicaria perfoliata</i>
Mimosa	<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>
Mock Orange	<i>Philadelphus sp.</i>
Money Plant	<i>Lunaria annua</i>
Mulberry, White	<i>Morus alba</i>
Multiflora Rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>
Orchid, Helleborine	<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>
Oriental Bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>
Pachysandra	<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>
Pagoda Tree	<i>Sophora japonica</i>
Pear, Bradford	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>
Pearlwort	<i>Sagina procumbens</i>
Periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor</i>
Phellodendron	<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>
Porcelainberry	<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i>
Princess Tree	<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>
Privet, Border	<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i>
Privet, Chinese	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>
Privet, European	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>
Privet, Japanese	<i>Ligustrum japonicum</i>
Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
Rose of Sharon	<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>
Tree of Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>
Viburnum, Double-file	<i>Viburnum plicatum</i>
Viburnum, Linden	<i>Viburnum dilatatum</i>
Viburnum, Tea	<i>Viburnum setigerum</i>
Wineberry	<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i>
Wisteria, Chinese	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>
Wisteria, Japanese	<i>Wisteria floribunda</i>
Yam, Chinese	<i>Dioscorea polystachya</i>

* Do not plant in close proximity to forested areas or woodland edges.

** Plant only in confined garden beds and avoid park entryways or woodland edges.

Please note that the plants listed above are known to be invasive locally. Additional plant species may be documented as invasive in other locales or represent potential invasive species. A number of public agencies, universities, and conservation non-profit organizations are currently documenting and tracking the spread of non-native invasive exotic species across the country. As field research continues, the number of identified invasive exotic species will increase. In order to insure that the use of invasive exotic species is avoided, a number of data sources are available for vetting purposes. The following PDF files and internet links are considered reliable information resources:

- Invasive Alien Plant Species of Virginia (DCR) www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/documents/invlist.pdf
- Terrestrial Invasive Plants of the Potomac River Watershed – Nature Conservancy. www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/maryland/news/news2699.html
- Invasive Plant Atlas of the United States – Center for Invasive Species Ecosystem Health, University of Georgia. www.invasiveplantatlas.org/index.html
- Mid-Atlantic Invasive Plant Council (MAIPC). <http://www.maipec.org/>
- Invasive Plant Atlas of New England. <http://nbii-nin.ciesin.columbia.edu/ipane/ipanespecies/ipanespecies.htm>
- Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council. <http://www.se-eppc.org/>

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