

# Invasive Plants



## What's an invasive plant?

There are many non-native plants that coexist with native plants. Invasive plants, however, are non-native plants that cause harm to Maine's economy and environment.

## Addressing Invasive Plants

**Caution: If not removed properly, they can spread!**

1. **Positively identify** the plant. Measure the invaded area and decide whether you can DIY or need a professional.
2. **Each species has specific recommendations for proper removal or management.** Companies that offer pesticide-alternative invasive control can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/NoPesticidesRemoval>. Animals (like goats) eat certain invasive plants and can clear larger areas.
3. **Sometimes it is better to prevent the invasive plant from spreading** instead of trying to completely remove it.
4. **Contain all removed plant material** (leaves, branches, berries, vines, stems, roots) in containers or tarps and allow it to dry out and die (preferably where you just removed it to reduce risk of spreading while moving).
5. **Check with your municipality** for allowed methods of disposal after the plant is dead (burning, transfer station, etc.).

Contact your local Soil & Water Conservation District or UMaine Cooperative Extension or the Maine Natural Areas Program office for help.



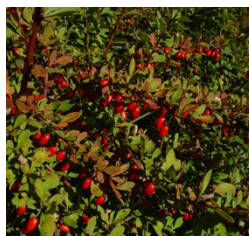
## Common Invasive Plants

There are over 60 invasive plants that are illegal to import, export, buy, sell, or intentionally transplant in Maine. An additional 30 plants are being monitored and discouraged from spreading. Common invasive plants in yards include:



**Asiatic Bittersweet** (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)

Spreads by seeds and through roots. Woody vine with pointed leaves and red berries in fall. Manually remove with persistent cutting.



**Japanese Barberry** (*Berberis thunbergii*)

Spreads by seeds found in red berries. Branches can grow roots. Shrub grows to 6 feet tall, small rounded leaves. Remove manually, continue to cut new growth.



**Japanese Knotweed** (*Fallopia japonica*)

Spreads through its roots. Tall hollow stalks with wide leaves, late summer blooms. Remove manually, cover with thick material to prevent new growth.



**Multiflora Rose** (*Rosa multiflora*)

Spreads through seeds and rooting branch tips. Serrated leaflets, pale flowers in spring. Manually remove, with persistent cutting.

Maine's Full List of Invasive Plants:

<https://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/horticulture/invasiveplants.shtml>