The Backyard Invasives Project What's in Your Yard?



Invasive Plant Present:

Smartweed (*Persicaria longiseta*): forms large stands. Related to Japanese Knotweed. <u>Ecological Impact:</u> <u>Origin</u>: Asia.

Invasive Plant Present:

Dwarf Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica var. compacta*): spreads quickly by rhizomes and sprouted stems. Sometimes used to treat Lyme disease. Origin: Japan.

Invasive Plant Present:

Wall-Lettuce (*Mycelis muralis*): spreads quickly by wind dispersed seeds. Can make up to 11,500 seeds. Takes over the herbaceous layer of forests and competes with native plants.

Origin: Eurasia.



Invasive Plant Present:

Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*): Edible, Biennial plant, first year small basal rosette, second year shoots up to flower and produces up to 8000 seeds per plant per season. <u>Ecological Impact</u>: This plant prevents other plants from growing by putting chemicals in the soil, and is toxic to the caterpillars of the West Virginia white butterfly who confuses it for native toothwort. <u>Origin</u>: Europe.

Invasive Plant Present:

Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*): Fast growing vine, bright orange roots, red berries spread by birds. This plant is stimulated to grow when pulled, so the entire root must be taken out in order to get rid of it.

Ecological Impact: blocks foliage on trees, strangles plants, can cause trees to fall. *Origin:* Asia.

Invasive Plant Present:

Porcelain Berry (*Ampelopsis gladulosa var. brevipeduculata*): Fast growing vine, bright blue berries spread by birds. Leaves resemble grape but with deeper lobes. Large taproot.

<u>Ecological Impact:</u> lacks nutritional content migrating birds need. Shades native plants to outcompete them. <u>Origin:</u> Asia

Invasive Plant Present:

Fox Tails (*Setaria sp.*): Seed head is hazardous to dogs and other animals: when it gets stuck in ears or noses it lodges itself deeper in with its bristle structure. <u>Ecological Impact</u>: Annual grass.

<u>Origin:</u> Eurasia



Invasive Plant Present:

Multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*): Can grow 10 ft tall and forms dense thickets <u>Ecological Impact</u>: Crowds out other species <u>Origin</u>: Asia

Invasive Plant Present: Mile-a-minute vine (*Persicaria perfoliata*): Can grow 26 ft long and shades out native plants. <u>Ecological Impact:</u> Crowds out other species <u>Origin:</u> East Asia

Non-native Plant Present:

Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*): Medicinal plant, used to treat a variety of ailments, thought to cause intense dreams when burned. <u>Ecological Impact:</u> <u>Origin:</u> Asia/Alaska



Non-native Plant Present:

Queen Anne's Lace (*Daucus carota*): Edible root, ancestor of cultivated carrot. <u>Ecological Impact:</u> <u>Origin:</u> Europe.

Non-native Plant Present:

St.John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*): used to treat depression <u>Ecological Impact:</u> considered invasive in some <u>Origin:</u> Eurasia



Native Plant Present:

Green Briar (*Smilax rotundifolia*): Prickles on stem, climbing vine with tendrils. <u>*Ecological Impact:*</u> birds eat berries in the winter.



Native Plant Present:

Concord Grape (*Solidago sp.*): very good plant for pollinators! <u>*Ecological Impact*</u>: One study showed ~60 different insect species visiting it. Dead stems develop galls that host larva.

Native Plant Present:

Goldenrod (*Solidago sp.*): very good plant for pollinators! <u>*Ecological Impact*</u>: One study showed ~60 different insect species visiting it. Dead stems develop galls that host larva.



Native Plant Present:

Pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*): WARNING: can cause an allergic reaction in some people. Handle with caution. Plant and fruit are both toxic.

Ecological Impact: Birds love it. Berries can be used for dye.



Native Plant Present:

Jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*): Natural remedy for poison ivy. <u>*Ecological Impact*</u>: Deer, hummingbirds, and bees all love this plant.



Native Reptile Present: Garter Snake



Native Insect Present: Gold Digger Wasp