

Invasive Plants

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Arrow Bamboo

Pseudosasa Japonica

Plant Details:

Height: 5-13 inches

Duration: Evergreen

Bloom: Does not bloom

Native Origin: Japan, Korea

Plant/Flower Description:

Arrow Bamboo is an evergreen, and is a bamboo that is **invasive to New Jersey** and native to Japan and Korea. It's a member of the grass family Poaceae and is also known as metake. The bamboo gets its name from the Japanese samurai who used its straight, strong, and thin culms, or canes, to make arrows during Japan's feudal period. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and may even spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- Arrow bamboo has woody, hollow culms that are often yellow-brown and have a diameter of up to 0.5 inches.
- The culms are covered in large, glossy, dark green leaves that are about 1 foot long and 1.5 inches wide.
- The leaves are lanceolate and palm-like, and the stems have a white band below each node where branches attach.



Sources:

<https://www.nccih.nih.gov/health/mugwort>

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Common Bamboo

Bambusa Vulgaris

Plant Details:

Height: 15-60 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom: Does not flower

Type of Plant: Grass

Native Origin: Asia

Plant/Flower Description:

Common Bamboo is a large, clumping bamboo species with tall, hollow, green to yellow-green stems. The lance-shaped leaves are arranged alternately along the stems. It grows 15-60 feet tall. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is originally from Asia. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and may even spread outside of gardens displacing natives.



Extra Info:

- This plant grows really fast, growing about 1-4 inches per day

Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bambusa_vulgaris

<https://www.quaduabamboo.com/blog/bambusa-vulgaris>

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Golden Bamboo

Phyllostachys Aurea

Plant Details:

Height: up to 27 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom: Does not flower

Native Origin: China, Vietnam

Plant/Flower Description:

Golden Bamboo is a fast-growing perennial grass that can grow up to 27 feet tall. It's **invasive to New Jersey** and native to China and Vietnam, and is drought tolerant. In warmer climates, golden bamboo forms open groves, while in colder climates, it's a less aggressive grower and forms tight groves. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and may even spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- Has excellent wood quality
- Can tolerate temperatures as low as 0°F



Sources:

<https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/phyllostachys-aurea/>

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Black Locust

Robinia Pseudoacacia

Plant Details:

Height: 40-80 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom Color: White

Bloom Time: Apr. - June

Native Origin: Southeastern US

Plant/Flower Description:

Black Locust is a deciduous tree with compound leaves composed of small, oval leaflets. The tree produces clusters of white pea-like flowers from April to June. The bark is deeply furrowed, and the tree grows up to 80 feet tall. It is known for its hard, durable wood. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is native to Southeastern US. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and can spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- Grows fast leading to early survivability, but relatively short lifespan for a tree
- Roots can grow suckers due to damage, but can grow them without damage. These suckers are stems that grow from the roots into the air and can even form trees. The main trunk can also grow sprouts after being cut down.



Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robinia_pseudoacacia

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/database/feis/plants/tree/robpse/all.html#:~:text=Age>

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Callery Pear

Pyrus Calleryana

Plant Details:

Height: 25-60 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom Color: White

Bloom Time: Apr. - May

Native Origin: China, Vietnam

Plant/Flower Description:

Callery Pear is a deciduous tree with a conical to rounded crown. It produces clusters of white flowers in early spring, before the leaves emerge. The glossy, dark green leaves are ovate and turn vibrant red, orange, or purple in fall. This tree grows 25-40 feet tall. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is native to China and Vietnam.

Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and can spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- Callery Pear trees release an unpleasant smell when they bloom



Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pyrus_calleryana

<https://mortonarb.org/plant-and-protect/trees-and-plants/callery-pear-not-recommended/>

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Chinese Silvergrass

Miscanthus Sinensis

Plant Details:

Height: 3-7 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom Color: Red, Pink, Silver

Bloom Time: Aug. - Nov.

Native Origin: Asia

Plant/Flower Description:

Chinese Silvergrass is a tall, clump-forming ornamental grass with slender, arching leaves and showy plumes of feathery flowers. The leaves are green with a white midrib and turn golden brown in fall. Silver to pink plumes appear in August to November.

This plant grows 3-7 feet tall. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is native to Asia. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and can spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- Chinese Silvergrass is highly flammable due to the plant's high cellulose content.



Sources:

www.thespruce.com/maiden-grass-miscanthus-sinensis-gracillimus-2132484

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miscanthus_sinensis

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English Ivy

Hedera Helix

Plant Details:

Height: up to 100 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom Color: White, Green

Bloom Time: Aug. - Nov.

Native Origin: Europe, Asia, Africa

Plant/Flower Description:

English Ivy is a climbing vine with glossy, dark green, lobed leaves. The plant produces small, greenish-white flowers in August to November, followed by black berries. It can grow 100 feet in length and is used to cover the ground, walls, and fences. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is originally from Europe, Asia, and Africa.

Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and can spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- All parts of English Ivy are poisonous, and can be dangerous if ingested. The sap can also cause skin irritation if touched



Sources:

<https://www.invasive.org/alien/pubs/midatlantic/hehe.htm>

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Garlic Mustard

Alliaria Petiolata

Plant Details:

Height: up to 3 feet

Duration: Biennial

Bloom Color: White

Bloom Time: Apr. - July

Native Origin: Europe, Asia

Plant/Flower Description:

Garlic Mustard is a biennial herb that grows up to 3 feet tall. It has kidney-shaped, serrated leaves that when crushed have a distinctive garlic-like odor. The plant blooms in April to July, making small, white, four petaled flowers in clusters. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is native to Europe and Asia. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and can spread outside of gardens displacing natives.



Extra Info:

- Garlic mustard can be crushed up and turned into a spice, but you must harvest it while it is young so that it doesn't contain cyanide.

Sources:

<https://www.nps.gov/blue/learn/nature/garlic-mustard.htm>

<https://extension.psu.edu/garlic-mustard>

www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/indiana/stories-in-indiana/garlic-mustard/

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Japanese Honeysuckle

Lonicera Japonica Thunb

Plant Details:

Height: 16 - 30 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom Color: White

Bloom Time: May - June

Native Origin: Asia

Plant/Flower Description:

Japanese Honeysuckle is a woody, semi-evergreen, invasive vine that can grow 30 ft long and is **invasive to New Jersey** and native to Asia. Leaves are opposite, simple, ovate, 1½ to 3¼ inches long. Leaves produced in spring are often highly lobed, while in the summer are unlobed. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and may even spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- Japanese honeysuckle can be deciduous in colder climates, but evergreen in moderate to warmer areas. It is often cultivated in the U.S. for aesthetic reasons, erosion control, and wildlife forage.



Sources:

<https://www.invasive.org/alien/pubs/midatlantic/loja.htm>

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Morrow's Bush Honeysuckle

Lonicera Morrowii

Plant Details:

Height: 6-9 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom Color: White, Pink

Bloom Time: Apr. - May

Native Origin: Asia

Plant/Flower Description:

Morrow's Bush Honeysuckle is a deciduous shrub that grows 6-9 feet tall. It has opposite, ovate leaves and produces clusters of small, white to pink, tubular flowers in April to May, followed by red berries. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is native to Asia. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and can spread outside of gardens displacing natives.



Extra Info:

- Morrow's Bush Honeysuckle is notorious for its aggressive spread.

Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lonicera_morrowii

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/morrows-honeysuckle.htm>

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Tatarian Honeysuckle

Lonicera Tatarica

Plant Details:

Height: up to 10 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom Color: Red, Pink

Bloom Time: May - June

Native Origin: Europe, Asia

Plant/Flower Description:

Tatarian Honeysuckle is native to Eurasia and was introduced to North America in 1752 as an ornamental plant. It can tolerate a wide range of upland habitats, including forests, woodland edges, fields, fence rows, and thickets. It can also grow in part shade or sun and disturbed soil. It is **invasive to New Jersey** and creates dense thickets.

Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and can spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- Tatarian honeysuckle can tolerate shade and flooding, but prefers full sun.
- It can invade open woodlands, old fields, and other disturbed areas, forming dense thickets that can restrict the growth of native plants and tree seedlings.
- It can also reduce biodiversity by shading the ground and depleting the soil of moisture and nutrients.



Sources:

http://plants.cashmannursery.com/12080008/Plant/247/Tatarian_Honeysuckle/

<https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/pestmanagement/weedcontrol/noxiouslist/tatarianhoneysuckle>

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Japanese Barberry

Berberis Thunbergii

Plant Details:

Height: up to 6 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom Color: Yellow, Red

Bloom Time: Mar. - June

Native Origin: Japan

Plant/Flower Description:

Japanese Barberry is a deciduous shrub with small, oval, red to green leaves. The plant produces small, yellow flowers in spring, followed by bright red berries. It can grow up to 6 feet tall and is often used in landscaping for its colorful foliage and berries. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is originally from Japan. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and may even spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- Japanese Barberry has adapted to several types of soil and is capable of growing in full sun to shade.
- Japanese barberry has a unique ability allowing it to alter the chemistry of the soil hosting it. This makes the site a better habitat for more Japanese barberry plants to grow.



Sources:

<https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/pestmanagement/weedcontrol/noxiouslist/japanesebarberry>

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Japanese Knotweed

Reynoutria Japonica

Plant Details:

Height: 3-15 feet
Duration: Perennial
Bloom Color: Red, Purple
Bloom Time: Aug. - Sep.
Native Origin: Japan

Plant/Flower Description:

Japanese Knotweed is a semi-woody, shrub-like perennial that can grow to be 3–9 feet tall. It's an **invasive plant to New Jersey** native to Japan and other parts of Asia that was originally imported as an ornamental plant. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and may even spread outside of gardens displacing natives.



Extra Info:

- Japanese knotweed is an herbaceous perennial

Sources:

<https://www.nccih.nih.gov/health/mugwort>

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Japanese Stiltgrass

Microstegium vimineum

Plant Details:

Height: 1-4 feet

Duration: Annual

Bloom Color: Green, Tan

Bloom Time: Aug. - Oct.

Native Origin: Asia

Plant/Flower Description:

Japanese Stiltgrass is a low-growing annual grass with narrow, lance-shaped leaves that have a silvery midrib. The plant produces small, inconspicuous flowers from August to October. It typically grows 1-4 feet tall and is often found in disturbed areas, forming dense, mat-like colonies. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is native to Asia. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and can spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- Japanese stiltgrass can produce thousands of seeds that can travel long distances and remain in the soil for at least three years. The seeds float and spread primarily through water, but can also be carried by hikers' shoes, cars, ATVs, and equipment. The plant can also spread by rooting at its nodes.



Sources:

<https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/terrestrial/plants/japanese-stiltgrass>

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Mugwort

Artemisia Vulgaris

Plant Details:

Height: 2-6 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom Color: Brown, Purple

Bloom Time: July - Oct.

Native Origin: Europe and Eastern Asia

Plant/Flower Description:

Mugwort is a tall, herbaceous, perennial plant growing 2-6 feet tall, with an extensive rhizome system. Rather than depending on seed dispersal it spreads through vegetative expansion and the anthropogenic dispersal of root rhizome fragments. Mugwort is **invasive to New Jersey** and native to Europe and Eastern Asia. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and may even spread outside of gardens displacing natives.



Extra Info:

- Historically, mugwort has been used in traditional systems of medicine in different parts of the world.
- Today, mugwort taken orally (by mouth) is promoted for digestive problems, irregular menstruation, and high blood pressure. It is also promoted as a sedative, laxative, and liver tonic.
- Mugwort lotion applied topically (to the skin) is promoted for itching caused by hypertrophic scars (visible, raised scars that can sometimes cause restricted movement of muscles, joints, and tendons).

Sources:

<https://www.nccih.nih.gov/health/mugwort>

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Multiflora Rose

Rosa Multiflora

Plant Details:

Height: 6-15 feet
Duration: Perennial
Bloom Color: White, Pink
Bloom Time: May - June
Native Origin: Asia

Plant/Flower Description:

Multiflora Rose is a vigorous deciduous shrub with arching stems and compound leaves made up of small, oval leaflets. It blooms in May to June, producing clusters of small, white to pink flowers, followed by red berries. This plant grows 6-15 feet tall and forms dense thickets. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is native to Asia. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and can spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- The plant's branches are covered in sharp thorns
- The plant produces small, red, berry-like fruits (hips) that are edible but quite tart.



Sources:

<https://extension.psu.edu/multiflora-rose>

<https://www.gardenia.net/plant/rosa-multiflora>

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Norway Maple

Acer Platanoides

Plant Details:

Height: 40-100 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom Color: Green, Yellow

Bloom Time: Apr. - May

Native Origin: Europe, Asia

Plant/Flower Description:

Norway Maple is a large deciduous tree with broad, five-lobed leaves that are dark green in color. The tree produces small, yellow green flowers in spring before the leaves emerge. It can grow up to 100 feet tall and is known for its dense canopy and winged seeds. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is originally from Europe and Asia. Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and may even spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- The Norway Maple tree has a dense root system that releases poisonous chemicals into the soil that kill other plants.



Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acer_platanoides

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/a-z-of-british-trees/norway-maple/>

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Oriental Bittersweet

Celastrus Orbiculatus

Plant Details:

Height: up to 60 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom Color: Green, Yellow

Bloom Time: May - June

Native Origin: China, Japan, Korea

Plant/Flower Description:

Oriental Bittersweet is a woody, perennial vine with rounded, dark green leaves and small, greenish-yellow flowers that appear in summer, followed by bright orange to red berries encased in a yellow husk in the fall.

It can grow 60 feet long and 6 inches in diameter at its base. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is originally from Asia.

Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and can spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- Oriental bittersweet is often used as an ornamental vine in floral arrangements and wreaths for fall decorations. It's not recommended to use it for this purpose because its seeds can be accidentally dispersed when moving the vines.
- Oriental bittersweet is also considered an invasive species that can escape into natural areas from old home sites where it was introduced.



Sources:

<https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/terrestrial/plants/oriental-bittersweet>

<https://cipwg.uconn.edu/oriental-asiatic-bittersweet/>

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Tree of Heaven

Ailanthus Altissima

Plant Details:

Height: up to 70 feet

Duration: Perennial

Bloom Color: Yellow, Green

Bloom Time: May - June

Native Origin: China, Taiwan

Plant/Flower Description:

Tree of Heaven is a large, fast-growing deciduous tree that can reach up to 70 feet tall. It has compound leaves with a bright green color. In May to June, clusters of small, greenish-yellow flowers appear. The tree is known for its rapid growth and strong odor. This plant is **invasive to New Jersey** and is originally from China and Taiwan.

Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and can spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- The roots, leaves, and bark of the tree of heaven are used in traditional Chinese medicine as an astringent and to treat a variety of ailments, including mental illness and baldness



Sources:

<https://www.invasive.org/alien/pubs/midatlantic/aial.htm>

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Winged Burning Bush

Euonymus Alatus

Plant Details:

Height: 5 - 20 ft

Duration: Deciduous

Bloom Color: Red, Purple

Bloom Time: May - Oct.

Native Origin: Northeastern Asia

Plant/Flower Description:

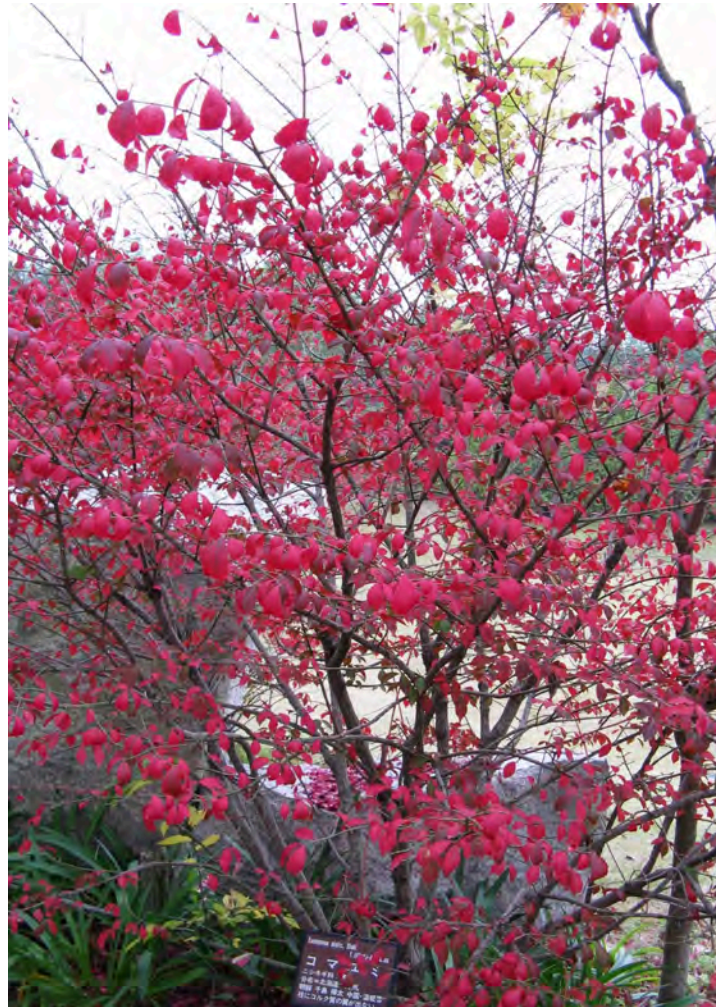
Winged Burning Bush is a deciduous shrub with corky winged stems and elliptical, dark green leaves. In fall, the leaves turn bright red. The plant produces small inconspicuous flowers in spring, followed by red fruits. It grows 5-20 feet tall. This plant is **invasive to**

New Jersey and is originally from Asia.

Once established invasive plants are incredibly hard to get rid of and can spread outside of gardens displacing natives.

Extra Info:

- All parts of the Winged Burning Bush are poisonous. If touched your skin can have a burning feeling, and if eaten can be deadly



Sources:

<https://www.invasive.org/alien/pubs/midatlantic/eual.htm>

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