

## OTHER INVASIVE SPECIES OF CONCERN

**Gypsy moth** - Thanks to maimaiga fungus, the damage caused by gypsy moths was controlled for many years in Connecticut. However, due to decreased levels of rain in 2015 and 2016, the fungus struggled and the gypsy moth population substantially increased. Outbreak status was reached in parts of south-central and eastern Connecticut. The gypsy moth caterpillar is responsible for direct damage to trees, preferring to feed on oak, but also known to consume beech, birch, elm, maples, and most other hardwoods. They are easily transported accidentally by human activity and therefore spreading the invasion, due to the small size of the larva eggs.



More information for tree and woodland owners on how to protect your property from gypsy moths can be found here:

### CT DEEP

[https://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2697&q=589362&deepNav\\_GID=1631](https://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2697&q=589362&deepNav_GID=1631)

### Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

<https://portal.ct.gov/CAES/Publications/Publications/Gypsy-Moth-Lymantria-dispar>

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### *Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group*

<https://cipwg.uconn.edu/>

### *CT DEEP Invasive Species*

[http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2702&q=323494&deepNav\\_GID=1641%20](http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2702&q=323494&deepNav_GID=1641%20)

### *Audubon Connecticut*

<http://ct.audubon.org/remove-invasive-plants>

### Resources on Native Species:

The [Connecticut Native Tree and Shrub Availability List](#) cross-references native species with nurseries where they may be available. This list was produced by the CT DEEP, Bureau of Natural Resources, and the Wildlife Division.

<https://www.conncoll.edu/media/website-media/green/arbo/greenlivingdocs/treeavailability.pdf>

### *New England Wildlife Society*

<https://gobotany.newenglandwild.org/>

### *Connecticut Botanical Society*

<http://www.ct-botanical-society.org/home>

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Sustainable Team for  
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# TOWN OF ASHFORD



## A GUIDE TO INVASIVE PLANTS



Photo Source: Ashford POCD 2015

## COMMON INVASIVE PLANTS



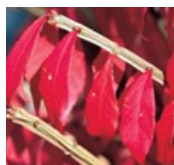
**Garlic Mustard** - Many native wildflowers on which wildlife depend complete their life cycles in the spring-time in the same habitat as

garlic mustard and once it is introduced into an area, garlic mustard outcompetes native plants by aggressively monopolizing light, moisture, nutrients, soil, and space. **Native Alternatives** - Rue-anemone (*Thalictrum thalictroides*), cut-leaved toothwort (*Cardamine concatenata*), bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*), wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*)



### Winged Euonymus -

Forms dense thickets, displacing many native woody and



herbaceous plant species. Opposite,

simple, elliptical toothed leaves which turn scarlet in autumn. **Native Alternatives** - Red Chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia*), Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*), Silky Dogwood (*Cornus amomum*)



**Japanese Knotweed** - Invades disturbed areas with high light, such as roadsides and stream banks. Reproduction occurs both vegetatively (rhizomes) and seeds, making it extremely hard to eradicate. Dense patches shade and displace other plant life and reduce wildlife habitat. **Native Alternatives** - New England Aster (*Aster novaeangliae*), sweet joe pye-weed (*Eupatorium purpureum*)



**Multiflora Rose** - Forms impenetrable thickets in pastures, fields, and forest edges, restricts human, livestock, and wildlife movement and displaces native vegetation. **Native Alternatives** - Native shrubs like Arrowwood (*Viburnum dentatum*), Inkberry holly (*Ilex glabra*), Highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*)

**Japanese Barberry** - Forms dense stands in natural habitats and alters soil PH, nitrogen levels, and biological activity in the soil. Human health is put at risk as these plants are a principal host for Lyme disease ticks. **Native Alternatives** - Northern bayberry (*Morella pensylvanica*), ink-berry (*Ilex glabra*), winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), arrowwood (*Viburnum dentatum*), and mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*).



**Purple Loosestrife** - Adapts readily to natural and disturbed wetlands and outcompetes native grasses, sedges, and other higher quality sources of nutrition for wildlife. **Native Alternatives** - Blue vervain (*Verbena hastata*), Cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), Fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*) & Purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)



**Oriental Bittersweet** - Vigorously growing



vine that climbs over and smothers vegetation. When it climbs high up in trees, the increased weight can lead to uprooting and blow-overs during high winds and heavy snowfalls. **Native Alternatives** - American bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*), trumpet honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*)

**Autumn Olive** - A rapid grower and prolific seed producer, it outcompetes and displaces native shrubs reducing floral and habitat diversity. As a nitrogen fixer, it can alter nutrient



cycle dynamics and change soil suitability for other shrub species.

**Native Alternatives** -

Red Chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia*), Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), Silky Dogwood (*Cornus amomum*)

**Removal techniques for invasive plants** fall into three different categories: mechanical, biological, and chemical. Some methods are recommended over others depending on the plant. Research which method yields the best results for the pesky invasive plant(s) in your backyard or community!