

**Plant invasions of yards and roads! Do you know what invasives are? We mean invasive species. They are all over our town and we can all help slow them down.**

## **Definition of Invasive Plants**

Invasive plants are introduced species that can thrive in areas beyond their natural range of dispersal. These plants are characteristically adaptable, aggressive, and have a high reproductive capacity. Their vigor combined with a lack of natural enemies often leads to outbreak populations

*What you can do.*

**What you can do to help curb the spread of invasive species.**

- Plant native plants and remove any invasive plants in your garden.
  - There are many good native plant alternatives to common exotic ornamental plants  
<http://umaine.edu/publications/2502e/>  
<http://umaine.edu/publications/2500e/>
- Learn to identify invasive species in your area.  
[www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/features/invasive\\_plants/inv sheets.htm](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/features/invasive_plants/inv sheets.htm)  
[www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest\\_health/invasive\\_threats/index.htm](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/invasive_threats/index.htm)
- Report any sighting to your county extension agent.  
Regularly clean your boots, gear, boat tires and any other equipment you use outdoors to remove insects and plant parts that may spread invasive species to new places  
<http://umaine.edu/invasivespecies/>
- When camping, buy firewood near your campsite (within 30 miles) instead of bringing your own from home and leave any extra for the next campers. Invertebrates and plants can easily hitch a ride on firewood you haul to or from a campsite—you could inadvertently introduce an invasive to a new area

For a list of common plant species considered invasive go to

1. [Plant species \*\*currently considered invasive\*\* in Maine](#)
2. [Plant species \*\*potentially or probably invasive\*\* in Maine](#)
3. [Plant species \*\*highly likely to be invasive, though they are currently unknown\*\* from the state](#)