

ALTERNATIVES TO OHIO'S INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES

The invasive plants in the left-hand column have been identified as problematic in Ohio's natural areas; many of these species are commercially available. The plants in the right-hand column are recommended alternatives to these invasive species, most of which are native to Ohio or the midwest region.

PURPOSES FOR THE SALE OR INTRODUCTION OF INVASIVE PLANTS:

1 wildlife food, 2 wildlife habitat, 3 aesthetic, 4 screening/windbreak, 5 erosion control, 6 fast growth, 7 low maintenance, 8 ground cover, 9 green manure, 10 forage crop

Invasive Species (Woody)	Alternatives
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i> (Russian-olive)	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i> (serviceberry) <i>Amelanchier laevis</i> (serviceberry) <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> (chokeberry)
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i> (autumn-olive)	<i>Asimina triloba</i> (paw-paw) <i>Calycanthus floridus</i> (Carolina allspice) * <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> (buttonbush) <i>Cornus ammomun</i> (silky dogwood) <i>Cornus racemosa</i> (grey dogwood)
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> (European or common buckthorn)	<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i> (Crusader/ Inermis hawthorn) <i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i> (Washington hawthorn) * <i>Crataegus viridis</i> (Winterking hawthorn) *
<i>Rhamnus frangula</i> (glossy buckthorn)	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> (witch-hazel) <i>Hydrangea arborescens</i> (wild hydrangea) <i>Ilex verticillata</i> (winterberry) <i>Lindera benzoin</i> (spicebush) <i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i> (ninebark) <i>Prunus americana</i> (American plum) <i>Prunus virginiana</i> (choke-cherry) <i>Rhamnus caroliniana</i> (Carolina buckthorn/Indian cherry) <i>Sambucus canadensis</i> (common elder) <i>Sambucus pubens</i> (red-berried elder) <i>Staphylea trifolia</i> (bladder nut) <i>Viburnum dentatum</i> (arrow-wood) <i>Viburnum lentago</i> (nannyberry) <i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> (black haw)
1, 2, 4, 6, 7	
<i>Lonicera maackii</i> (Amur honeysuckle)	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i> (serviceberry) <i>Amelanchier laevis</i> (serviceberry) <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> (chokeberry) <i>Clethra alnifolia</i> (summersweet) *
<i>Lonicera morrowii</i> (Morrow honeysuckle)	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i> (alternate-leaf dogwood) <i>Corylus americana</i> (American hazelnut)
<i>Lonicera tatarica</i> (Tatarian honeysuckle)	<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i> (Crusader/ Inermis hawthorn) <i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i> (Washington hawthorn) * <i>Crataegus viridis</i> (Winterking hawthorn) *
<i>Lonicera Xbella</i> (showy pink honeysuckle)	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> (witch-hazel) <i>Lindera benzoin</i> (spicebush) <i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i> (ninebark) <i>Rhus copallina</i> (shining or winged sumac) <i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> (black haw)
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	

Invasive Species	(Woody)	Alternatives
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Berberis thunbergii (Japanese barberry)

Euonymus alatus (winged euonymus)

Ligustrum obtusifolium (border privet)

Ligustrum vulgare (common privet)

Viburnum opulus var. *opulus* (European cranberry-bush)

1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7

Amorpha fruticosa (false indigo) *
Cornus racemosa (grey dogwood)
Cornus sericea (red osier dogwood)
Euonymus atropurpureus (wahoo)
Euonymus obovatus (strawberry bush)
Ilex glabra (inkberry) *
Itea virginica (Virginia sweetspire, 'Henry's garnet') *
Potentilla fruticosa (shrubby cinquefoil)
Rhus aromatica (fragrant sumac)
Vaccinium corymbosum (highbush blueberry)
Vaccinium stamineum (deerberry)
Viburnum acerifolium (maple-leaf viburnum)
Viburnum dentatum (arrow-wood)
Viburnum lentago (nannyberry)
Viburnum nudum var. *cassinoides* (withe-rod)
Viburnum prunifolium (black haw)

Rosa canina (dog rose)

Rosa multiflora (multiflora rose)

1, 2, 3, 4

Rosa carolina (pasture rose)
Rosa setigera (prairie rose)
Spiraea tomentosa (hardhack or steeple-bush)
Spiraea alba (meadowsweet)

Invasive Species	(Vines)	Alternatives
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Ampelopsis brevipedunculata (porcelain berry)

Celastrus orbiculatus (Asian bittersweet)

Euonymus fortunei (wintercreeper)

Lonicera japonica (Japanese honeysuckle)

3, 4, 7, 8

Ampelopsis cordata (heartleaf ampelopsis)
Clematis virginiana (virgin's bower)
Lonicera sempervirens (trumpet honeysuckle)
Parthenocissus quinquefolia (Virginia creeper)

Invasive Species	(Groundcover)	Alternatives
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Coronilla varia (crown-vetch)

Euphorbia esula (leafy spurge)

Lysimachia nummularia (moneywort)

Polygonum cuspidatum (Japanese knotweed)
(P. Reynoutria or Fallopia japonica)

Ranunculus ficaria (lesser celandine)

Vinca minor (periwinkle or myrtle)

3, 6, 7, 8

Asarum canadensis (wild ginger)
Carex muskingumensis (Muskingum sedge)
Carex pensylvanica (Pennsylvania sedge)
Euonymus obovatus (strawberry bush)
Hypericum hypericoides (St. Andrew's cross)
Hypericum pyramidatum (great St. John's wort)
Mitchella repens (partridgeberry, twinberry)
Oenothera missouriensis (Missouri primrose) *
Phlox stolonifera (creeping phlox)
Phlox subulata (moss-pink)
Rhus aromatica (fragrant sumac, cultivar gro-low)
Sedum ternatum (wild stonecrop)
Solidago sphacelata (golden fleece)
Viola sororia (common blue violet)
Viola striata (creamy violet)

Invasive Species (Wildflowers)	Alternatives**
<i>Daucus carota</i> (Queen Anne's lace)	<i>Aster ericoides</i> (heath aster) <i>Aster lateriflorus</i> (calico aster) <i>Aster novae-angliae</i> (New England aster) <i>Aster pilosus</i> (common white aster) <i>Aster puniceus</i> (purple-stemmed aster)
<i>Hemerocallis fulva</i> (day-lily)	<i>Eupatorium altissimum</i> (tall boneset) <i>Eupatorium rugosa</i> (white snakeroot)
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i> (dame's rocket)	Hybrid lilies Non-native, but non-invasive
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i> (bouncing bet)	<i>Lilium canadense</i> (Canada lily) <i>Lilium michiganense</i> (Michigan lily) <i>Oenothera missouriensis</i> (Missouri primrose) * <i>Phlox divaricata</i> (wild blue phlox) <i>Phlox paniculata</i> (garden phlox) <i>Phlox pilosa</i> (downy phlox) <i>Ratibida pinnata</i> (yellow coneflower) <i>Sedum ternatum</i> (wild stonecrop) <i>Solidago rigida</i> (stiff goldenrod) <i>Solidago rugosa</i> (fireworks cultivar) <i>Solidago speciosa</i> (showy golden rod)
<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i> (Star-of-Bethlehem)	No alternative recommended

1, 2, 3, 7

Invasive Species (Agricultural)	Alternatives
<i>Melilotus alba</i> (white sweet-clover)	<i>Fagopyrum esculentum</i> (buckwheat) <i>Trifolium incarnatum</i> Non-native, but non-invasive
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i> (yellow sweet-clover)	

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Invasive Species (Grasses)	Alternatives
<i>Agropyron repens</i> (quack-grass)	<u>Dry Habitats:</u> <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i> (side oats) <i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i> (wild oats) <i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i> (purple lovegrass) <i>Panicum virgatum</i> (switchgrass) <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> (little bluestem) <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> (Indian grass)
<i>Bromus inermis</i> (smooth brome)	
<i>Festuca arundinacea</i> - Kentucky 31 (meadow fescue) <i>Festuca pratensis</i> (meadow fescue)	
<i>Microstegium vimineum</i> (Nepalgrass)	
<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> (Chinese silvergrass)	<u>Mesic to Wet Habitats:</u> <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> (big bluestem) <i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i> (reed-grass) <i>Elymus canadensis</i> (Canada rye) <i>Elymus hystrix</i> (bottlebrush-grass) <i>Elymus virginicus</i> (Virginia rye) <i>Panicum virgatum</i> (switchgrass) <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> (Indian grass) <i>Spartina pectinata</i> (prairie cord grass) <i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i> (gama grass)
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> (reed canary grass)***	
<i>Phragmites australis</i> (common reed grass)***	
<i>Sorghum halepense</i> (Johnson grass)	

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10

Invasive Species	(Wetland)	Alternatives**
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Butomus umbellatus (flowering-rush)

Iris pseudacorus (yellow flag)

Lythrum salicaria (purple loosestrife)

Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum (water-cress)

1, 3, 7

- Chelone glabra* (turtlehead)
- Eupatorium fistulosum* (joe-pye-weed)
- Eupatorium maculatum* (spotted joe-pye weed)
- Eupatorium purpureum* (sweet-scented joe-pye weed)
- Hibiscus laevis* (smooth rose mallow)
- Hibiscus moschuetos* (swamp rose mallow)
- Iris versicolor* (larger blue flag)
- Iris virginica* (blue flag)
- Liatris aspera* (rough blazing star)
- Liatris scariosa* (eastern blazing star)
- Liatris spicata* (dense or spiked blazingstar)
- Lobelia cardinalis* (cardinal flower)
- Lobelia siphilitica* (great blue lobelia)
- Monarda didyma* (bee-balm)
- Monarda fistulosa* (wild bergamot)
- Physostegia virginiana* (obedient plant)
- Rosa palustris* (swamp rose)
- Sagittaria latifolia* (common arrowhead)
- Saururus cernuus* (lizard's tail)
- Sium suave* (water parsnip)
- Tradescantia ohioensis* (Ohio spiderwort)
- Verbena hastata* (blue vervain)
- Vernonia altissima* (tall ironweed)
- Veronicastrum virginicum* (Culver's root)

Typha angustifolia (narrow-leaved cattail)

Typha Xglauca (hybrid cattail)

1, 2, 7

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- Arundinaria gigantea* (giant cane)
 - Carex lacustris* (lake sedge)
 - Carex muskingumensis* (Muskingum sedge)
 - Carex stricta* (tussock sedge)
 - Carex vulpinoidea* (fox sedge)
 - Juncus effusus* (common rush)
 - Juncus torreyi* (Torrey's rush)
 - Scirpus fluviatilis* (river bulrush)
 - Scirpus validus* (softstem bulrush)
 - Sparganium americanum* (bur-reed)
 - Spartina pectinata* (prairie cord grass)

Invasive Species Not Sold

Ailanthus altissima (tree-of-heaven)
Alliaria petiolata (garlic mustard)
Carduus nutans (nodding thistle)
Centaurea maculosa (spotted knapweed)
Cirsium arvense (Canada thistle)
Conium maculatum (poison hemlock)
Convulvulus arvensis (field bindweed)
Dioscorea batatas (air-potato, cinnamon-vine)
Dipsacus fullonum (*sylvestris*) (common teasel)
Dipsacus laciniatus (cut-leaved teasel)
Epilobium hirsutum (hairy willow-herb)
Epilobium parviflorum (small-flowered hairy willow herb)
Myriophyllum spicatum (Eurasian water-milfoil)
Najas minor (lesser naiad)
Polygonum perfoliatum (mile-a-minute vine)
Polygonum sachalinense (giant knotweed)
Potamogeton crispus (curly pondweed)
Pueraria lobata (kudzu)
Vincetoxicum nigrum (black swallow-wort)

* indicates native to region, but not Ohio

** see additional recommendations in other native wildflower garden or wetland literature

*** these species may have native and non-native strains in Ohio

Alternatives

No recommendations as these species are generally not commercially available.

This list was developed in September 2001 by the ODNR Division of Natural Areas & Preserves, The Nature Conservancy, and the Columbus & Franklin County Metro Park District in cooperation with The Holden Arboretum, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Akron Garden Club, The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, Miami University (Dr. Michael Vincent), and the Ohio Prairie Association (John Blakeman).

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