

What is an **INVASIVE PLANT**

doing in my back yard?

Weeds are plants that are unwanted in our garden or yard. Some may be perfectly good plants, but growing in the wrong place. Even a maple tree sprouting in your flower bed could be considered a weed. However, invasive plants are much worse.

Invasive plants are weeds that easily move beyond property lines, spreading quickly and dominating the landscape at the expense of local ecosystems. Although some invasive plants may look pretty when in bloom, they damage valuable habitat by outcompeting native plants for water, soil nutrients, and sunlight.

HORTICULTURAL ESCAPE ARTISTS

*Japanese Barberry

*Ornamental Pear

*Burning Bush

*Privet

Bush Honeysuckle

Oriental Bittersweet

Wintercreeper

* often available from retailers.
Ask for alternatives.



because a single garlic mustard plant is capable of producing thousands of seeds!

to participate, check
ilhipp.org/do-your-part

HOW CAN I HELP?

1. While hiking or gardening, learn to identify invasive plants by color, leaf shape, and flower. A clue: masses of invasive plants are common in disturbed soils along hiking paths.
2. Take action! Invasive plants can be pulled, cut, burned, or sprayed. To find out the best ways to manage invasives that you encounter, visit ilhipp.org/resources
3. Clean your shoes and remove those sticky seeds from clothes after a hike.
4. Volunteer at your local park preserve or other natural area to help remove invasive species. For volunteer opportunities with HIPP, visit: ilhipp.org/do-your-part
5. Choose native plants! They can be easier to care for, and they provide more benefits for local wildlife.

THINK & INVESTIGATE BEFORE YOU PLANT!



**Questions to ask your
garden retailer:**

1. Is this plant native to our area?
2. Does this plant grow rapidly?
3. Does it establish itself quickly?
4. Is it hard to contain to an area?
5. What is an alternative plant?

Join us at the HIPP to fight the
spread of invasives in
east central Illinois.



Email: hippcwma@gmail.com
ilhipp.org



one little
two little
three little

INVASIVES

100 little
2,000 little
30,000 little

INVASIVES

100,000
2,000,000
30,000,000

SEEDS IN ONE SEASON

**INVASIVES
ARE AGGRESSIVE**

You can help stop the spread of
invasive plants and promote
a diverse environment where
plants, birds, wildlife,
beneficial insects,
and humans can thrive.



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**HEADWATERS
INVASIVE PLANT PARTNERSHIP**



what's it all about?

Have you noticed a growing number
of white tree trunks
in downtown Champaign this May?

The Headwaters Invasive Plant Partnership
(HIPP) is playfully
bringing to your attention
what we usually don't see ~
the exponential spread
of invasive plants in our community.

**STOP
THE SPREAD OF
INVASIVE
PLANTS**

GROW NATIVE PLANTS INSTEAD.