

THE INVASIVE PLANT PROBLEM

SOME PLANTS MAY LOOK BEAUTIFUL, but they can have a devastating effect. Invasive plants are non-native, grow quickly and rapidly reproduce. They cause major changes to the areas where they become established. They can harm the environment, economy and even human health.



INVASIVE SPECIES are the number one threat to native plants and animals on protected lands. INVASIVE PLANTS are spreading over one million acres of wildlife habitat per year in the U.S. SCIENTISTS ESTIMATE that invasive plants cost our economy \$35 billion in damages and treatment each year.

Most of today's worst invasive plants arrived as ornamental additions that escaped our gardens and landscapes. If we want to keep invasive plants *out* of our natural areas, we need to place non-invasive plants *into* our gardens. The good news – and an outcome that few others areas can claim – is that within the Adirondack Park, opportunities still exist to prevent invasive plants from becoming widespread. You can help.



INVASIVE-FREE GARDENS PROTECT ADIRONDACK WOODS AND WATERWAYS

PLANTWISE ADK PROMOTES RESPONSIBLE GARDENING AND LANDSCAPING USING NON-INVASIVE PLANTS



VISIT adkinvasives.com TO LEARN MORE ABOUT NATIVE AND INVASIVE PLANTS AND TO GET INVOLVED



Plantwise ADK is a partnership between the Essex County Adirondack Garden Club and Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program.

Photos: sugar maple: John Ruter, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org; barberry, fragrant sumac, highbush blueberry, marsh marigold: Emily DeBolt; echinacea: Duncan Harris; Invasive Plant Problem panel: swallow-wort: APIPP; giant hogweed (inset) and all others Wikimedia Commons.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GROW

GARDENERS' TIPSHEET



PLANT WISE ADK

⊘ DON'T PLANT



European honeysuckle
(*Lonicera* spp.)



Norway maple
(*Acer platanoides*)



Japanese barberry
(*Berberis thunbergii*)



Burning bush
(*Euonymus alatus*)



Yellow flag iris
(*Iris pseudacorus*)

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

LEARN about which invasive plants are a problem in your area. If you see invasive plants in the wild, report them to: nyimapinvasives.org/report-an-invasive.

USE non-invasive plants in your garden and landscaping. A short list is provided here; more can be found at adkinvasives.com.

WATCH out for invasive plant “hitchhikers” that might be growing in the pot of a desirable plant at the nursery.

NEVER share invasive plants during plant swaps with neighbors and friends.

CHECK the ingredients of seed mixes and use only those that are free of invasive plants.

CONTROL invasive plants on your property using best management practices.

LEAD by example and ask others to be plantwise.

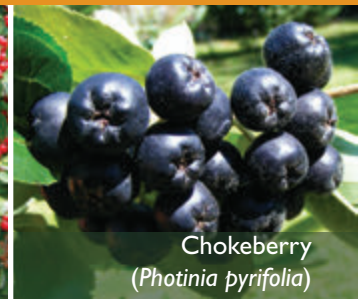
GET involved with regional efforts to prevent and manage invasive species.

THE ADIRONDACKS ARE WORTH PROTECTING

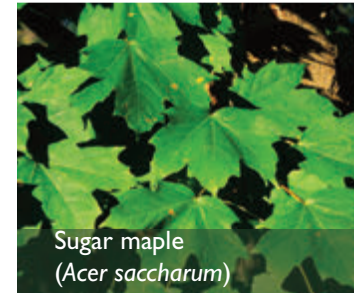
DO PLANT ✓



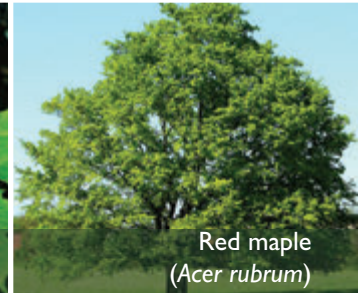
Winterberry
(*Ilex verticillata*)



Chokeberry
(*Photinia pyrifolia*)



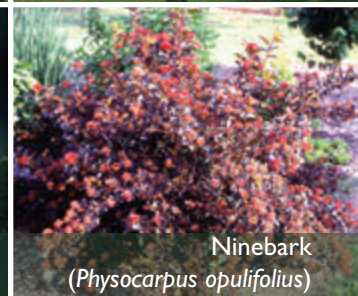
Sugar maple
(*Acer saccharum*)



Red maple
(*Acer rubrum*)



Virginia rose
(*Rosa virginiana*)



Ninebark
(*Physocarpus opulifolius*)



Highbush blueberry
(*Vaccinium corymbosum*)



Fragrant sumac
(*Rhus aromatica*)



Blue flag iris
(*Iris versicolor*)



Marsh marigold
(*Caltha palustris*)