

## NWF Indiana Do-not-Buy/ Do-not-Plant List

Indiana Non-Native Plant to Avoid		Notes	Plant Instead	
Common Name	Latin Name		Common Name	Latin Name
<b>Grasses</b>				
Chinese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	This robust grass escapes from ornamental plantings, displacing native plants in areas of disturbance such as fields, edge of woodlands, and roadsides. It is highly flammable, increasing fire risk where it invades.	Switchgrass Indian Grass Little Bluestem	<i>Panicum virgatum</i> <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>
Golden Bamboo	<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i> <i>Bambusa sp.</i>	Available for sale online and in garden centers, bamboo quickly spreads by underground rhizomes and escapes cultivation. The dense shade and leaf litter prevent other species from growing.	Switchgrass Indian Grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i> <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>
Reed Canary Grass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Planted for erosion control and forage, this species spreads aggressively throughout all types of wet areas in the state. Its monoculture stands outcompete all the native vegetation in these areas.	Prairie Cord Grass Switchgrass Indian Grass	<i>Spartina pectinata</i> <i>Panicum virgatum</i> <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>
<b>Herbaceous Perennials</b>				
Japanese Knotweed	<i>Reynoutria japonica</i> <i>(Fallopia japonica)</i>	This perennial with hollow stems similar to bamboo spreads aggressively in both upland and lowland areas. It is especially dominant along creeks, where it causes bank instability and erosion. Its rhizomes can also damage structures such as foundations.	Goatsbeard Nannyberry Redosier Dogwood	<i>Aruncus dioicus</i> <i>Viburnum lentago</i> <i>Cornus alba</i>
Lesser celandine	<i>Ficaria verna</i> <i>(Ranunculus ficaria)</i>	This perennial has naturalized throughout many states, forming dense mats that prevent native vegetation, especially spring ephemerals, from surviving. It spreads from underground tubers as well as bulblets that drop from the stems and spread by water.	Golden Alexander Marsh Marigold	<i>Zizia aurea</i> <i>Caltha palustris</i>

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Periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor</i>	This vine forms a dense mat along the forest floor, preventing tree seedlings from germinating and disrupting succession. This also displaces food sources for wildlife, and additionally, the leaves are toxic for most animals.	Virginia Creeper Wild Ginger Sedges, including Eastern Star Sedge	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> <i>Asarum canadense</i> <i>Carex spp.</i> <i>Carex radiata</i>
Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	This invasive species invades wetlands in particular, forming monocultures that prevent other species from growing there. It covers such a large area that plant diversity has been greatly impacted, in turn impacting wildlife diversity. Supposedly sterile cultivars have been developed, however cross-pollination, which is highly likely given that this species is pollinated by insects, has been shown to produce seed.	Blazing Star Swamp Milkweed Cardinal Flower Prairie Ironweed	<i>Liatris spicata</i> <i>Asclepias incarnata</i> <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> <i>Vernonia fasciculata</i>
Tropical Milkweed	<i>Asclepias curassavica</i>	When planted in areas where it does not die back in the winter, this plant helps to sustain high levels of parasites known as OE that are highly detrimental to the health and migration success of Monarch butterflies.	Butterfly Milkweed Whorled Milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> <i>Asclepias verticillata</i>
<b>Vines</b>				
Chinese Wisteria	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Available at garden centers, this vine with a highly aggressive habit girdles and shades out native vegetation. Its stems can become like tree trunks in diameter. Causing trees to topple, this species creates gaps in the forest ideal for itself and other natives to take hold.	American Wisteria Passion Vine	<i>Wisteria frutescens</i> <i>Passiflora incarnata</i>

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Clematis – Sweet Autumn	<i>Clematis terniflora</i>	Known for climbing over and smothering other plants, this vine can also cause other plants to topple over due to its weight. It is known to invade forests, stream areas, and right-of-ways.	Virgin’s Bower Grape Honeysuckle Trumpet Honeysuckle	<i>Clematis virginiana</i> <i>Lonicera reticulata</i> <i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>
English Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	This vine can kill trees that it climbs and smother vegetation along the ground. It outcompetes native species for sunlight, soil moisture, and nutrients. It also hosts Bacterial Leaf Scorch, a disease problematic to some native trees and shrubs.	Golden Groundsel Wild Ginger	<i>Packera aurea</i> <i>Asarum canadense</i>
Honeysuckle – Japanese	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	This vine quickly outcompetes native trees and shrubs by smothering, girdling stems, pulling them down. This in turn makes it easier for other invasives to invade.	Virginia creeper  Virgin’s Bower Coral Honeysuckle	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> <i>Clematis virginiana</i> <i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>
Wintercreeper	<i>Euonymus fortunei</i>	This evergreen, clinging woody vine takes several forms, growing as a groundcover, low shrub, and climbing vine. As it spreads, new roots are put down, escaping into native forests where it forms a dense mat that shades other species and outcompetes them for soil moisture and nutrients.	Christmas Fern  Wild Ginger Golden Groundsel	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i> <i>Asarum canadense</i> <i>Packera aurea</i>
<b>Shrubs</b>				
Bush Honeysuckle – Amur, Morrow’s, Tatarian, hybrids	<i>Lonicera maackii</i> <i>Lonicera morrowii</i> <i>Lonicera tatarica</i> <i>Lonicera x bella</i>	Once established, these species can become too tall to control as landscape shrubs. They seed profusely, resulting in seeds being spread by birds and mammals and eventually forming dense thickets.	Black Raspberry Arrowwood Viburnum Black Chokeberry Elderberry  Grey dogwood	<i>Rubus occidentalis</i> <i>Viburnum dentatum</i>  <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> <i>Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis</i> <i>Cornus racemosa</i>

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Butterfly Bush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	This deciduous shrub easily invades riparian areas and areas that have been disturbed. Although it provides pollen and nectar, it is not a source of food for caterpillars of butterflies and moths, so wildlife is impacted when it is planted instead of or when it displaces native host plants.	False Indigo-Bush Steeplebush	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i> <i>Spiraea tomentosa</i>
Euonymous – Burning Bush	<i>Euonymous alatus</i>	This shrub is found to be invasive and can outcompete native plants by spreading to form dense thickets in the understory of forests throughout the state.	Highbush Blueberry  Blackhaw  Black Chokeberry Winterberry	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i> <i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> <i>Ilex verticillata</i>
Japanese Barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	This widely planted landscape shrub is considered a noxious weed in some states, with its seeds spread readily by birds. It is known to greatly increase tick populations, which results in increased instances of tick-borne illnesses.	Blackhaw  Black Chokeberry New Jersey Tea	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> <i>Ceanothus americanus</i>
Japanese Spiraea	<i>Spiraea japonica</i>	It can spread by suckering, but also self-seeds aggressively throughout forest edges, roadsides, and other disturbed areas. This species escapes gardens and spreads into natural areas forming dense thickets. The heavy shade allows it to outcompete existing plants and prevents new plants from regenerating.	Steeplebush Meadowsweet Ninebark	<i>Spiraea tomentosa</i> <i>Spiraea alba</i> <i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>
Lantana	<i>Lantana camara</i> ( <i>Lantana strigocamara</i> )	This popular garden plant has escaped freely and become a noxious weed in areas without frost. It has invaded a variety of habitats and can form dense thickets that outcompete native vegetation. It can tolerate all sorts of conditions and is spread by birds who have eaten the seeds. Its	Northern Bush-Honeysuckle Shrubby St. John's Wort Butterfly Milkweed Black-eyed Susan	<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>  <i>Hypericum prolificum</i>  <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>

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		hybridization with native <i>Lantana sp.</i> has reduced their natural populations. This plant is also problematic due to its toxic properties affecting children, livestock, and domestic animals. All parts of the plant are poisonous if ingested. Handling the plant may cause skin irritation or allergic reaction.		
Olive- Autumn and Russian	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i> <i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	These species hybridize with native <i>Elaeagnus sp.</i> , displacing native species. They are tolerant of a wide range of stressors including salt, drought, and shade. Seeds are widely dispersed by wildlife.	American Hazelnut Red Osier Dogwood Elderberry	<i>Corylus americana</i> <i>Cornus alba</i> <i>Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis</i>
Privet – blunt leaved (use caution with other types)	<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i>	Growing into dense thickets due to extensive root suckers, the result is large quantities of fruit produced and dispersed by birds and deer. This species tolerates heavy shade and poor soil. Its fruits and leaves poisonous to livestock and people.	Black Haw  Winterberry Grey Dogwood	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> <i>Ilex verticillata</i> <i>Cornus racemosa</i>
<b>Trees</b>				
Amur Cork Tree	<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	This species spreads by seed that is distributed by wildlife eating the fruits. It can also resprout after treatment. It can form large patches that displace native species.	Ohio Buckeye Persimmon	<i>Aesculus glabra</i> <i>Diospyros virginiana</i>
Bradford/Callery Pear	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Used frequently due to tolerance of tough urban conditions, this species has weak branches that frequently lead to limb breakage. Its flowers have an objectionable odor. Seeds are produced in great abundance by trees as young as three years and are spread widely by birds to naturalize in native ecosystems.	Allegheny Serviceberry Downy Serviceberry Chickasaw Plum Redbud Pagoda Dogwood	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>  <i>Amelanchier arborea</i> <i>Prunus angustifolia</i> <i>Cercis canadensis</i> <i>Cornus alternifolia</i>

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Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	This widely used landscape and street tree has invaded forests in Indiana and can also be found along roadsides and fencerows. It grows so thickly that its dense shade and shallow roots can displace all native species and prevent native seedlings from regenerating. The shallow roots are also susceptible to being blown over in storms.	Red Maple Sugar Maple Shumard's Oak Swamp White Oak	<i>Acer rubrum</i> <i>Acer saccharum</i> <i>Quercus shumardii</i> <i>Quercus bicolor</i>
Tree of Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Even after treatment, this species can resprout and quickly form a thicket taking over an area. It produces large numbers of seeds as well. Additionally, it produces toxins that make it hard for other plants to survive. Roots can damage building and water infrastructure.	Pignut Hickory American Basswood Smooth Sumac Winged Sumac	<i>Carya glabra</i> <i>Tilia americana</i> <i>Rhus glabra</i> <i>Rhus copallinum</i>

**denotes plants that have been specified on landscape plans for Taylor Morrison in IN (none as of 1<sup>st</sup> draft - new division)**

### References:

Indiana Invasive Species Council [Official IISC Invasive Plant List](#)

Indiana Native Plant Society [Top Garden Invasives/ Native Alternatives](#)

Indiana Native Plant Society [Meet Indiana's Bad Guys](#)

Purdue University Extension [Invasive Species in Indiana Resources](#)

Indiana Department of Natural Resources [Terrestrial Plant Rule and Noxious Weeds](#)

Indiana Department of Natural Resources [Division of Fish & Wildlife Terrestrial Invasive Species Plan](#)

[Invasive Plants Guide to Identification and the Impacts and Control of Common North American Species](#) by Sylvan Ramsey Kaufman and Wallace Kaufman

[Federal Noxious Weed List](#)

*(In addition to the plants listed above, species listed as noxious weeds may not be planted in Indiana under any circumstances.)*

University of Florida UF/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants [Plant Directory](#)