CONNECTICUT INVASIVE PLANT LIST

October 2025

Connecticut Invasive Plants Council

Ordered by Common Name

Statement to accompany list -- January 2004: This is a list of species that have been determined by floristic analysis to be invasive or potentially invasive in the state of Connecticut, in accordance with PA 03-136. The Invasive Plants Council will generate a second list recommending restrictions on some of these plants. In developing the second list and particular restrictions, the Council will recognize the need to balance the detrimental effects of invasive plants with the agricultural and horticultural value of some of these plants, while still protecting the state's minimally managed habitats.

In May 2004, Public Act 04-203 restricted a subset of the January 2004 list making it illegal to move, sell, purchase, transplant, cultivate or distribute prohibited plants. Effective July 1, 2009, Public Act 09-52 removed the prohibition on *Pistia stratiotes*.

@ column indicates growth form or habitat: A = Aquatic & Wetland; G = Grass & Grass-like; H = Herbaceous; S = Shrub; T = Tree; V = Woody Vine

Explanation of symbols after Common Name: (P) indicates Potentially Invasive (all other plants listed are considered Invasive in Connecticut)

***** denotes that the species, although shown by scientific evaluation to be invasive, has cultivars that have not been evaluated for invasive characteristics. Further research may determine whether individual cultivars are potentially invasive. Cultivars are commercially available selections of a plant species that have been bred or selected for predictable, desirable attributes of horticultural value such as form (dwarf or weeping forms), foliage (variegated or colorful leaves), or flowering attributes (enhanced flower color or size).

"PROHIBITED BY STATUTE?" column indicates prohibited status: Yes = prohibited from importation, movement, sale, purchase, transplanting, cultivation and distribution under CT Gen. Stat. §22a-381d; N/A= not prohibited

^ indicates species that are not currently known to be naturalized in Connecticut but would likely become invasive here if they are found to persist in the state without cultivation

The taxonomic names used by the Connecticut Invasive Plants Council on the Invasive Plant List are consistent with the names used by the United States Department of Agriculture PLANTS database, accessible online at www.plants.usda.gov. The Council also maintains a list of scientific name synonyms for reference purposes.

COMMON NAME	@	SCIENTIFIC NAME	SYNONYMS	PROHIBITED BY STATUTE?
American water lotus (P)	A	*Nelumbo lutea* Willd.	American water lotus	Yes
Amur honeysuckle	S	*Lonicera maackii* (Rupr.) Herder		Yes
Amur maple (P)	T	*Acer ginnala* Maxim.		N/A
Autumn olive	S	*Elaeagnus umbellata* Thunb.		Yes
Belle honeysuckle	S	*Lonicera x bella* Zabel	Bell's honeysuckle (*misapplied*)	Yes
Bittersweet nightshade (P)	H	*Solanum dulcamara* L.	Climbing nightshade	Yes
Black locust*	T	*Robinia pseudoacacia* L.		Oct 2028
Black swallow-wort	H	*Cynanchum louiseae* Kartesz & Gandhi	*Cynanchum nigrum*; *Vincetoxicum nigrum*	Yes
Border privet (P)	S	*Ligustrum obtusifolium* Sieb. & Zucc.		Yes
Brazilian water-weed (P)	A	*Egeria densa* Planchon	Anacharis; Egeria	Yes
Bristled knotweed	H	*Polygonum caespitosum* Blume	*Persicaria longiseta;* Oriental lady's thumb	Yes
Brittle water-nymph (P)	A	*Najas minor* All.	Eutrophic water-nymph	Yes
California privet (P)	S	*Ligustrum ovalifolium* Hassk.		N/A
Callery pear	T	*Pyrus calleryana*		Oct 2027
Canada bluegrass (P)	G	*Poa compressa* L.		Yes
Canada thistle (P)	H	*Cirsium arvense* (L.) Scop.		Yes
Chinese wisteria (P)	V	*Wisteria sinensis*		Yes
Coltsfoot	H	*Tussilago farfara* L.		Yes
Common barberry	S	*Berberis vulgaris* L.		Yes
Common buckthorn	S	*Rhamnus cathartica* L.		Yes
Common kochia (P)	H	*Bassia scoparia* (L.) A.J. Scott	*Kochia scoparia* ; Fireweed; Summer cypress	Yes
Common reed	G	*Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin.	Phragmites	Yes
Common water-hyacinth^ (P)	A	*Eichhornia crassipes* (Mart.) Solms		N/A
Crested late-summer mint (P)	H	*Elsholtzia ciliata* (Thunb.) Hylander	Elsholtzia	Yes

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Crispy-leaved pondweed	A	*Potamogeton crispus* L.	Curly-leaved pondweed	Yes
Cup plant (P)	H	*Silphium perfoliatum* L.		Yes
Cypress spurge (P)	H	*Euphorbia cyparissias* L.		Yes
Dame's rocket	H	*Hesperis matronalis* L.		Yes
Drooping brome-grass (P)	G	*Bromus tectorum* L.	Cheatgrass	Yes
Dwarf honeysuckle^ (P)	S	*Lonicera xylosteum* L.	European fly-honeysuckle	Yes
Eulalia* (P)	G	*Miscanthus sinensis* Andersson	Chinese or Japanese silvergrass	Oct 2028
Eurasian watermilfoil	A	*Myriophyllum spicatum* L.		Yes
European privet (P)	S	*Ligustrum vulgare* L.		Oct 2028
European waterclover (P)	A	*Marsilea quadrifolia* L.	Water shamrock	Yes
False indigo (P)	S	*Amorpha fruticosa* L.		Yes
Fanwort	A	*Cabomba caroliniana* A. Gray	Carolina fanwort	Yes
Fig buttercup	H	*Ranunculus ficaria* L.	Lesser celandine; *Ficaria verna*	Yes
Flowering rush (P)	A	*Butomus umbellatus* L.		Yes
Forget-me-not	A	*Myosotis scorpioides* L.	True forget-me-not; Water scorpion-grass	Yes
Garden heliotrope (P)	H	*Valeriana officinalis* L.	Garden Valerian	Yes
Garden loosestrife* (P)	H	*Lysimachia vulgaris* L.	Garden yellow loosestrife	Yes
Garlic mustard	H	*Alliaria petiolata* (M. Bieb.) Cavara		Yes
Giant hogweed (P)	H	*Heracleum mantegazzianum* (Sommier & Levier)		Yes
Giant knotweed (P)	H	*Polygonum sachalinense* F. Schmidt ex. Maxim.	*Fallopia sachalinense*	Yes
Giant salvinia^ (P)	A	*Salvinia molesta* Mitchell		Yes
Glossy buckthorn	S	*Frangula alnus* Mill.	*Rhamnus frangula*; European buckthorn	Oct 2028
Goutweed	H	*Aegopodium podagraria* L.	Bishop's weed	Yes
Ground ivy (P)	H	*Glechoma hederacea* L.	Gill-over-the-ground; Run-away robin	Yes
Hairy jointgrass (P)	G	*Arthraxon hispidus* (Thunb.) Makino	Small carpgrass	Yes
Hydrilla	A	*Hydrilla verticillata* (L.f.) Royle	Water thyme	Yes
Japanese angelica tree	T	*Aralia elata*		Yes
Japanese barberry*	S	*Berberis thunbergii* DC.		Oct 2028
Japanese honeysuckle*	V	*Lonicera japonica* Thunb.		Yes
Japanese hops (P)	H	*Humulus japonicus* Sieb. & Zucc.	Japanese hop	Yes
Japanese knotweed	H	*Polygonum cuspidatum* Siebold & Zucc.	*Fallopia japonica*	Yes
Japanese sedge^ (P)	G	*Carex kobomugi* Ohwi		Yes
Japanese stilt grass	G	*Microstegium vimineum* (Trin.) A. Camus		Yes
Japanese wisteria (P)	V	*Wisteria floribunda*		Yes
Jimsonweed (P)	H	*Datura stramonium* L.		Yes
Kudzu (P)	V	*Pueraria montana* (Lour.) Merr.	*Pueraria lobata*	Yes
Leafy spurge	H	*Euphorbia esula* L.		Yes
Mile-a-minute vine	H	*Polygonum perfoliatum* L.	*Persicaria perfoliata*	Yes
Moneywort* (P)	H	*Lysimachia nummularia* L.	Creeping jenny	N/A
Morrow's honeysuckle	S	*Lonicera morrowii* A. Gray		Yes
Mugwort	H	*Artemisia vulgaris* L.	Common wormwood	Yes
Multiflora rose	S	*Rosa multiflora* Thunb.		Yes
Narrowleaf bittercress	H	*Cardamine impatiens* L.		Yes
Norway maple*	T	*Acer platanoides* L.		Oct 2030
Onerow yellowcress (P)	A	*Nasturtium microphyllum* Boenn.	*Rorippa microphylla*	Yes
Oriental bittersweet	V	*Celastrus orbiculatus* Thunb.	Asiatic bittersweet	Yes

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Ornamental jewelweed (P)	H	*Impatiens glandulifera* Royle	Tall impatiens	Yes
Pale swallow-wort	H	*Cynanchum rossicum* (Kleo.) Borhidi	*Vincetoxicum rossicum*	Yes
Parrotfeather (P)	A	*Myriophyllum aquaticum* (Vell.) Verdc.		Yes
Perennial pepperweed	H	*Lepidium latifolium* L.	Tall pepperwort	Yes
Pond water-starwort (P)	A	*Callitriche stagnalis* Scop.		Yes
Porcelainberry*	V	*Ampelopsis brevipedunculata* (Maxim.) Trautv.	Amur peppervine	Yes
Princess tree (P)	T	*Paulownia tomentosa* (Thunb.) Siebold & Zucc. ex Steud.	Empress-tree	Yes
Purple loosestrife	A	*Lythrum salicaria* L.		Yes
Quackgrass	G	*Elymus repens* (L.) Gould		Yes
Ragged robin (P)	H	*Lychnis flos-cuculi* L.		Yes
Reed canary grass	G	*Phalaris arundinacea* L.		Oct 2028
Reed mannagrass^ (P)	G	*Glyceria maxima* (Hartm.) Holmb.	Tall mannagrass	Yes
Rugosa rose* (P)	S	*Rosa rugosa* Thunb.*	Beach, Salt spray, Japanese, or Ramanas Rose	N/A
		**Note: This plant is especially aggressive in coastal areas*		
Russian olive (P)	S	*Elaeagnus angustifolia* L.		Yes
Scotch thistle (P)	H	*Onopordum acanthium* L.		Yes
Sheep sorrel (P)	H	*Rumex acetosella* L.		Yes
Slender snake cotton	H	*Froelichia gracilis* (Hook.) Moq.	Cottonweed	Yes
Spotted knapweed	H	*Centaurea stoebe* L.	*Centaurea biebersteinii; Centaurea maculosa*	Yes
Star-of-Bethlehem (P)	H	*Ornithogalum umbellatum* L.		Yes
Sycamore maple (P)	T	*Acer pseudoplatanus* L.		Yes
Tansy ragwort^ (P)	H	*Senecio jacobaea* L.	Stinking Willie	Yes
Tatarian honeysuckle (P)	S	*Lonicera tatarica* L.		Yes
Tree of heaven	T	*Ailanthus altissima* (Mill.) Swingle		Yes
Variable-leaf watermilfoil	A	*Myriophyllum heterophyllum* Michx.		Yes
Water chestnut	A	*Trapa natans* L.		Yes
Water lettuce^ (P)	A	*Pistia stratiotes* L.		N/A
Watercress (P)	A	*Nasturtium officinale* W.T. Aiton	*Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum*	Yes
White poplar (P)	T	*Populus alba* L.		Yes
Wineberry	S	*Rubus phoenicolasius* Maxim.		Yes
Winged euonymus*	S	*Euonymus alatus* (Thunb.) Sieb.	Burning bush	Oct 2028
Yellow floating heart (P)	A	*Nymphoides peltata* (S.G. Gmel.) Kuntze		Yes
Yellow iris	A	*Iris pseudacorus* L.	Yellow flag iris; Pale yellow iris	Yes