

# Invasive Plants

Invasive plants are those that are non-native to Pennsylvania, grow aggressively, and can crowd out existing native plants. The native ecosystem can become degraded for all of its inhabitants, from native plants to insects, birds and animals. Ultimately, invasive plants alter habitats and reduce biodiversity.



**Garlic mustard** (*Alliaria petiolata*)

**How to Identify:**

Garlic mustard is a biennial and has leaves only in Year 1, flowers in Year 2. Garlic odor when leaves are crushed.

*Year 1* - leaves are kidney-shaped with a horseshoe base. Wavy edges.

*Year 2* - leaves are triangular shaped. Toothed edges. Tall flower stalks with four, white petals. Narrow seed pods.

**Management Tips:**

Weed to remove entire plant and roots when flowering. Dispose in trash bag.



**Lesser celandine** (*Ranunculus ficaria*)

**How to Identify:**

Leaves are dark green and heart-shaped. Basal rosettes spread by underground tubers. Likes wet environments.

Flowers are yellow with eight petals.

**Management Tips:**

Pull by hand or dig up small patches. Be sure to remove roots and tubers. Dispose in trash bag.

Large masses will need chemical use with a nonionic surfactant to decrease damage to other plants and amphibians.

# Invasive Plants

*Help us to prevent the spread of invasive alien plants!*

Educate yourself about invasive plants

Plant native plants

Help with invasive plant removal in natural areas

Remove invasive plants from your landscape



**Multiflora rose** (*Rosa multiflora*)

**How to Identify:**

Woody shrub with thorns, forms dense thickets and can climb up other plants.  
Leaves are compound, thorny branches.  
Flowers are fragrant and pink-white.  
Fruits are small red rose hips.

**Management Tips:**

Remove entire plant with proper tools and protective equipment.  
Dispose in trash bag.  
A glyphosate herbicide can be carefully applied to a cut branch or stump.



**Japanese honeysuckle** (*Lonicera japonica*)

**How to Identify:**

Woody vine that can be a low ground cover or twine around shrubs and trees.  
Leaves are oval, semi-evergreen and in an opposite arrangement on the branch.  
Flowers are fragrant, tubular and white to yellow in color. Fruits are black.

**Management Tips:**

Try to remove the entire vine and roots.  
If growing up a plant, cut the honeysuckle at ground level and again as high as possible. Dispose in trash bag.