

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 banned a subset of the January 2004 list making it illegal to move, sell, purchase, transplant, cultivate or distribute banned plants. Effective July 1, 2009, Public Act 09-52 removed the ban 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 or not 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: Y= 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	<i>Nelumbo lutea</i> Willd.	American water lotus	Y
Amur honeysuckle	S	<i>Lonicera maackii</i> (Rupr.) Herder		Y
Amur maple (P)	T	<i>Acer ginnala</i> Maxim.		N/A
Autumn olive	S	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i> Thunb.		Y
Belle honeysuckle	S	<i>Lonicera x bella</i> Zabel	Bell's honeysuckle (<i>misapplied</i>)	Y
Bittersweet nightshade (P)	H	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i> L.	Climbing nightshade	Y
Black locust*	T	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> L.		Oct 2028
Black swallow-wort	H	<i>Cynanchum louiseae</i> Kartesz & Gandhi	<i>Cynanchum nigrum</i> ; <i>Vincetoxicum nigrum</i>	Y
Border privet (P)	S	<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i> Sieb. & Zucc.		Y
Brazilian water-weed (P)	A	<i>Egeria densa</i> Planchon	Anacharis; Egeria	Y
Bristled knotweed	H	<i>Polygonum caespitosum</i> Blume	<i>Persicaria longiseta</i> ; Oriental lady's thumb	Y
Brittle water-nymph (P)	A	<i>Najas minor</i> All.	Eutrophic water-nymph	Y
California privet (P)	S	<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i> Hassk.		N/A
Callery pear	T	<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>		Oct 2027
Canada bluegrass (P)	G	<i>Poa compressa</i> L.		Y
Canada thistle (P)	H	<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L.) Scop.		Y
Chinese wisteria (P)	V	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>		Y
Coltsfoot	H	<i>Tussilago farfara</i> L.		Y
Common barberry	S	<i>Berberis vulgaris</i> L.		Y
Common buckthorn	S	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> L.		Y
Common kochia (P)	H	<i>Bassia scoparia</i> (L.) A.J. Scott	<i>Kochia scoparia</i> ; Fireweed; Summer cypress	Y
Common reed	G	<i>Phragmites australis</i> (Cav.) Trin.	Phragmites	Y
Common water-hyacinth^ (P)	A	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> (Mart.) Solms		N/A
Crested late-summer mint (P)	H	<i>Elsholtzia ciliata</i> (Thunb.) Hylander	Elsholtzia	Y
Crispy-leaved pondweed	A	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i> L.	Curly-leaved pondweed	Y
Cup plant (P)	H	<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i> L.		Y
Cypress spurge (P)	H	<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i> L.		Y
Dame's rocket	H	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i> L.		Y
Drooping brome-grass (P)	G	<i>Bromus tectorum</i> L.	Cheatgrass	Y
Dwarf honeysuckle^ (P)	S	<i>Lonicera xylosteum</i> L.	European fly-honeysuckle	Y

Eulalia* (P)	G	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> Andersson	Chinese or Japanese silvergrass	Oct 2028
Eurasian watermilfoil	A	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i> L.		Y
European privet (P)	S	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> L.		Oct 2028
European waterclover (P)	A	<i>Marsilea quadrifolia</i> L.	Water shamrock	Y
False indigo (P)	S	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i> L.		Y
Fanwort	A	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i> A. Gray	Carolina fanwort	Y
Fig buttercup	H	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i> L.	Lesser celandine; <i>Ficaria verna</i>	Y
Flowering rush (P)	A	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i> L.		Y
Forget-me-not	A	<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i> L.	True forget-me-not; Water scorpion-grass	Y
Garden heliotrope (P)	H	<i>Valeriana officinalis</i> L.	Garden Valerian	Y
Garden loosestrife* (P)	H	<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i> L.	Garden yellow loosestrife	Y
Garlic mustard	H	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i> (M. Bieb.) Cavara		Y
Giant hogweed (P)	H	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i> (Sommier & Levier)		Y
Giant knotweed (P)	H	<i>Polygonum sachalinense</i> F. Schmidt ex. Maxim.	<i>Fallopia sachalinense</i>	Y
Giant salvinia^ (P)	A	<i>Salvinia molesta</i> Mitchell		Y
Glossy buckthorn	S	<i>Frangula alnus</i> Mill.	<i>Rhamnus frangula</i> ; European buckthorn	Oct 2028
Goutweed	H	<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i> L.	Bishop's weed	Y
Ground ivy (P)	H	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i> L.	Gill-over-the-ground; Run-away robin	Y
Hairy jointgrass (P)	G	<i>Arthraxon hispidus</i> (Thunb.) Makino	Small carpgrass	Y
Hydrilla	A	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i> (L.f.) Royle	Water thyme	Y
Japanese angelica tree	T	<i>Aralia elata</i>		Y
Japanese barberry*	S	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> DC.		Oct 2028
Japanese honeysuckle*	V	<i>Lonicera japonica</i> Thunb.		Y
Japanese hops (P)	H	<i>Humulus japonicus</i> Sieb. & Zucc.	Japanese hop	Y
Japanese knotweed	H	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i> Siebold & Zucc.	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	Y
Japanese sedge^ (P)	G	<i>Carex kobomugi</i> Ohwi		Y
Japanese stilt grass	G	<i>Microstegium vimineum</i> (Trin.) A. Camus		Y
Japanese wisteria (P)	V	<i>Wisteria floribunda</i>		Y
Jimsonweed (P)	H	<i>Datura stramonium</i> L.		Y
Kudzu (P)	V	<i>Pueraria montana</i> (Lour.) Merr.	<i>Pueraria lobata</i>	Y
Leafy spurge	H	<i>Euphorbia esula</i> L.		Y
Mile-a-minute vine	H	<i>Polygonum perfoliatum</i> L.	<i>Persicaria perfoliata</i>	Y
Moneywort* (P)	H	<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i> L.	Creeping jenny	N/A
Morrow's honeysuckle	S	<i>Lonicera morrowii</i> A. Gray		Y
Mugwort	H	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i> L.	Common wormwood	Y
Multiflora rose	S	<i>Rosa multiflora</i> Thunb.		Y
Narrowleaf bittercress	H	<i>Cardamine impatiens</i> L.		Y
Norway maple*	T	<i>Acer platanoides</i> L.		Oct 2030
Onerow yellowcress (P)	A	<i>Nasturtium microphyllum</i> Boenn.	<i>Rorippa microphylla</i>	Y
Oriental bittersweet	V	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i> Thunb.	Asiatic bittersweet	Y
Ornamental jewelweed (P)	H	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i> Royle	Tall impatiens	Y
Pale swallow-wort	H	<i>Cynanchum rossicum</i> (Kleo.) Borhidi	<i>Vincetoxicum rossicum</i>	Y
Parrotfeather (P)	A	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i> (Vell.) Verdc.		Y
Perennial pepperweed	H	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i> L.	Tall pepperwort	Y
Pond water-starwort (P)	A	<i>Callitriche stagnalis</i> Scop.		Y
Porcelainberry*	V	<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i> (Maxim.) Trautv.	Amur peppervine	Y
Princess tree (P)	T	<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i> (Thunb.) Siebold & Zucc. ex Steud.	Empress-tree	Y
Purple loosestrife	A	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i> L.		Y
Quackgrass	G	<i>Elymus repens</i> (L.) Gould		Y
Ragged robin (P)	H	<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i> L.		Y
Reed canary grass	G	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> L.		Oct 2028
Reed mannagrass^ (P)	G	<i>Glyceria maxima</i> (Hartm.) Holmb.	Tall mannagrass	Y
Rugosa rose* (P)	S	<i>Rosa rugosa</i> Thunb.*	Beach, Salt spray, Japanese, or Ramanas Rose	N/A
		*Note: This plant is especially aggressive in coastal areas		

Russian olive (P)	S	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i> L.		Y
Scotch thistle (P)	H	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i> L.		Y
Sheep sorrel (P)	H	<i>Rumex acetosella</i> L.		Y
Slender snake cotton	H	<i>Froelichia gracilis</i> (Hook.) Moq.	Cottonweed	Y
Spotted knapweed	H	<i>Centaurea stoebe</i> L.	<i>Centaurea biebersteinii</i> ; <i>Centaurea maculosa</i>	Y
Star-of-Bethlehem (P)	H	<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i> L.		Y
Sycamore maple (P)	T	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> L.		Y
Tansy ragwort^ (P)	H	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i> L.	Stinking Willie	Y
Tatarian honeysuckle (P)	S	<i>Lonicera tatarica</i> L.		Y
Tree of heaven	T	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> (Mill.) Swingle		Y
Variable-leaf watermilfoil	A	<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i> Michx.		Y
Water chestnut	A	<i>Trapa natans</i> L.		Y
Water lettuce^ (P)	A	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i> L.		N/A
Watercress (P)	A	<i>Nasturtium officinale</i> W.T. Aiton	<i>Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum</i>	Y
White poplar (P)	T	<i>Populus alba</i> L.		Y
Wineberry	S	<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i> Maxim.		Y
Winged euonymus*	S	<i>Euonymus alatus</i> (Thunb.) Sieb.	Burning bush	Oct 2028
Yellow floating heart (P)	A	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i> (S.G. Gmel.) Kuntze		Y
Yellow iris	A	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i> L.	Yellow flag iris; Pale yellow iris	Y