

WATCH FOR THESE Roadside Invaders!

GRASSES AND HERBACEOUS PLANTS



Non-Native Phragmites

Hollow reed with broad, pointed leaves.
Thick stalks up to 15 feet high.
Dense fluffy flowers in the fall.

Photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Spotted Knapweed

Thistle-like plant, 2-4 feet high.
Lacking spikes or thorns on stems and leaves.
Pink-purple flowers in late summer.

Photo: Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org



Garlic Mustard

Herb with triangular, toothed leaves.
Up to 3 feet high with small white flowers.
Garlic odor when crushed.

Photo: Chris Evens, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org



Japanese Stiltgrass

Low-growing grass.
Leaves are pale green and 1-3 inches long.
Hairy leaves with mid-rib of silver hairs.

Photo: James H. Miller & Ted Bodner, Southern Weed Science Society



Giant Hogweed

Herbaceous plant 8-20 feet high.
Small white flowers in an umbrella-shaped cluster.
Leaves deeply lobed, up to 9 ft long.

Caution: contact with sap may irritate skin and eyes

Photo: Terry English, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org





INVASIVE VINES



Mile-a-Minute Weed

Reddish-green vine with barbed stem.
Triangular leaves barbed on underside.
Spikes of pea-sized blue fruit.

Photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Invasive Swallow-worts

Climbing, twining vines.
Pointed leaves with a waxy coating.
Long narrow seedpods.
Star-shaped flowers with rotting odor.

Photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Japanese Honeysuckle

Woody vine up to 25 feet long.
Hairy, reddish stem and oblong leaves.
Fragrant flowers yield black, paired fruits.

Photo: Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org

Kudzu

Fast-growing vine with 3 large leaflets.
Can cover trees and buildings.
Seeds like hairy pea pods.

Photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Did you find an invasive plant? Record it in the Midwest Invasive Species Information Network at www.misin.msu.edu.

Contact sbcisma@gmail.com for treatment information. Visit www.sbcisma.com for more information.

This project was funded by the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (Michigan.gov/Invasives)

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SHRUBS



Japanese Barberry

Spiny shrub 2-3 feet high.
Small, green to red spoon-like leaves.
Smooth, red, egg-shaped berries along stem.

Photo: John Ruter, University of Georgia

Common Buckthorn

Large shrub up to 25 feet high.
Leaves smooth, shiny and oval.
Twigs often tipped with a thorn.
Bark dotted with vertical spots.

Photo: Phytosanitary Administration, Bugwood.org



Glossy Buckthorn

Shrub or small tree up to 18 feet high.
Shiny green leaves are oval and untoothed.
Bark dotted with vertical spots.
Red to purple berries in fall.

Photo: Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org

Autumn Olive

Wide shrub grows to 20 feet high.
Leaves scaly green on top, silvery below.
Golden brown bark with speckled stems.
Clusters of red, speckled berries.

Photo: Leslie J. Mehroff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



SHRUBS



Multiflora Rose

Dense, broad shrub up to 16 feet high.
Thorns on stems and branches.
Compound leaves with 5-11 leaflets.
Five-petaled pink to white flowers in May-June.

Photo: Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org

Japanese Knotweed

Shrub with jointed stems up to 10 feet high.
Broad leaves up to 6 inches long with pointed tips.
Whitish flowers on stalks at base of leaf.

Photo: Michael Shephard USDA Forest Service



Giant Knotweed

Shrub with jointed stems up to 12 feet high.
Leaves 6-12 inches long with heart-shaped base.
Fine hair on underside of leaves.
Whitish flowers grow on stalks at base of leaf.

Photo: Jan Samanek, Physosanitary Administration, Bugwood.org

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