Alternatives to Ornamental Invasive Plants
A sustainable solution for Long Island horticulture

Long Island, NY is one of many locations throughout the U.S. that has taken progressive steps towards improving the environment by reducing the spread of invasive plants. Invasive plants have damaged Long Island’s unique woodlands by replacing native flora, and in turn, negatively impacting wildlife and natural ecosystem processes. Invasive species are among the top causes of biodiversity loss across the globe.

You can be part of the solution, by growing and planting alternatives to ornamental invasive plants! These plants were selected based upon their similar ornamental characteristics and cultural requirements compared to the invasives. Alternative plants may be native or non-native, but are not invasive. Alternative plants are well-adapted to Long Island, and many are readily available at Long Island nurseries. You can help make the future of Long Island greener by growing these “native-friendly” plants!

Alternatives:
- Eastern Baccharis
- ‘Heavy Metal’ Switchgrass
- ‘Kobold’ Dense Blazing Star

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For more information, visit:
www.nyis.info
www.ccesuffolk.org

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Invasive Plants Banned on Long Island & Their Alternatives
(Plants on the Do Not Sell List)

The Do Not Sell List
The Do Not Sell List consists of over 60 of the worst invasive plants! Species on the Do Not Sell List are “very highly invasive” or “highly invasive” according to the independent scientific review committee. It is illegal to sell, transport, distribute, or propagate species on the Do Not Sell List in both Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Listed on this page and the opposite page, are plants on the Do Not Sell List with their respective ban dates. Listed beneath each invasive species, are suggested alternatives.

Norway Maple 1/1/2013
Acer platanoides
- **Freeman Maple**
  Acer x freemani
- **Red Maple**
  Acer rubrum
- **Sugar Maple**
  Acer saccharum
- **Lacebark Elm**
  Ulmus parvifolia

For red cultivars of A. platanoides including ‘Crimson King’ and ‘Royal Red’ 1/1/2016:
- **Eastern Redbud**
  Cercis canadensis
  (Purple cultivars)
- **European Beech**
  Fagus sylvatica
  (Purple cultivars)
- **Chokecherry**
  Prunus virginiana
  (Purple cultivars)

Porcelain-berry 1/1/2009
Ampelopsis brevipedunculata
- **Bodinier or Purple Beautyberry**
  Callicarpa bodinieri
  C. dichotoma
- **Trumpet Honeysuckle**
  Lonicera sempervirens
- **Coralberry**
  Symphoricarpos orbiculatus & hybrids

Japanese Angelica Tree 1/1/2009
Aralia elata
For variegated cultivars of A. elata:
- **Pagoda Dogwood**
  Cornus alternifolia
  (Variegated cultivars)
- **Kousa Dogwood**
  Cornus kousa
  (Variegated cultivars)
- **Staghorn Sumac**
  Rhus typhina
  (Cutleaf cultivars)

Japanese Barberry 1/1/2014
Berberis thunbergii
For dwarf purple cultivars of B. thunbergii:
- **Old Fashioned Weigela**
  Weigela florida
  (Dwarf purple cultivars)

For standard purple cultivars of B. thunbergii:
- **Smokebush**
  Cotinus coggyria
  (Purple cultivars)
- **Eastern Ninebark**
  Physocarpus opulifolius
  (Purple cultivars)
- **Old Fashioned Weigela**
  Weigela florida
  (Standard purple cultivars)

For yellow or gold cultivars of B. thunbergii:
- **Glossy Abelia**
  Abelia x grandiflora
  (Yellow cultivars)
- **Border or Greenstem Forsythia**
  Forsythia x intermedia
  F. x derivissima
  (Yellow cultivars)
- **Boxleaf Honeysuckle**
  Lonicera nitida
  (Yellow cultivars)
- **Old Fashioned Weigela**
  Weigela florida
  (Yellow cultivars)

For green cultivars of B. thunbergii:
- **Cranberry Cotoneaster**
  Cotoneaster apiculatus
- **Bush Cinquefoil**
  Potentilla fruticosa
- **Fragrant Sumac**
  Rhus aromatica
  (Dwarf cultivars)
- **Old Fashioned Weigela**
  Weigela florida

Sweetautumn Clematis or Japanese Virgin's Bower 1/1/2011
Clematis terniflora
- **Anemone Clematis**
  Clematis montana
- **Virgin’s Bower**
  Clematis virginiana
- **Climbing Hydrangea**
  Hydrangea anomala subsp. petiolaris

Autumn-olive 1/1/2009
Elaeagnus umbellata
- **Eastern Baccharis**
  Baccharis halimifolia
- **Sweetfern**
  Comptonia peregrina
- **Northern Bayberry**
  Morella pensylvanica

Winged Euonymus or Burning Bush 1/1/2016
Euonymus alatus
- **Red** or **Black** Chokeberry
  Aronia arbutifolia
  A. melanocarpa
- **Dwarf**. **Hybrid**, or **Large** Fothergilla
  Fothergilla gardenii
  F. x intermedia
  F. major
- **Virginia Sweetspire**
  Itea virginica
- **Doublefile Viburnum**
  Viburnum plicatum var. tomentosum

*Native to the United States  ** Native to New York State  (hybrids and cultivars of native species included)
Wintercreeper Euonymus
1/1/2013

Euonymus fortunei

For the groundcover habit of E. fortunei:

- Bearberry**
  Arctostaphylos uva-ursi
- Bearberry Cotoneaster
  Cotoneaster dammeri
- Willowleaf Cotoneaster
  Cotoneaster salicifolius
  (Low-growing cultivars)
- Creeping Raspberry
  Rubus calycinoides (Rubus pentalobus)

For the shrub habit of E. fortunei:

- Dwarf Japanese Aucuba
  Aucuba japonica
  (Dwarf cultivars)
- Japanese Skimmia
  Skimmia japonica

Yellow Flag Iris
1/1/2012

Iris pseudacorus

Louisiana Irises*
Iris spp.
(Yellow flowering cultivars)
- Japanese Iris
  Iris ensata
- Blueflag Iris**
  Iris versicolor

Bell, Amur, Morrow, and Tatarian Shrub
Honeysuckle
1/1/2011

Lonicera x bella
L. maackii
L. morrowii
L. tatarica

Deutzia
Deutzia spp.

Beautybush
Kolkwitzia amabilis

Mockorange*
(some species native to U.S.)
Phillyphyllum spp.

Nippon or Vanhoutte Spirea
Spiraea nipponica
S. x vanhouttei

Japanese Honeysuckle
1/1/2011

Lonicera japonica

Crossvine*
Bignonia capreolata

Carolina Yellow Jessamine*
Gelsemium sempervirens
(Cold hardy cultivars)

Goldflame Honeysuckle
Lonicera x heckrottii

Trumpet Honeysuckle**
Lonicera sempervirens

Purple Loosestrife
1/1/2009

Lythrum salicaria

Meadowsweet
Filipendula purpurea
F. rubra*

Dense Blazing Star*
Liatris spicata

Obedient Plant**
Physostegia virginiana

Perennial Sage
Salvia nemorosa (S. x superba; S. x sylvestris)

Japanese Silver Grass or Maiden Grass
1/1/2016

Miscanthus sinensis

Feather Reed Grass
Calamagrostis x acutiflora

Korean Feather Reed Grass
Calamagrostis brachytricha

Pink Muhly Grass**
Muhlenbergia capillaris

Switchgrass**
Panicum virgatum

Amur Corktree
1/1/2013

Phellodendron amurense

Honeylocust*
Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis

Kentucky Coffeetree**
Gymnocladus dioicus

Lacebark Elm
Ulmus parvifolia

Black Locust
1/1/2013

Robinia pseudoacacia

For gold cultivars of R. pseudoacacia:

Honeylocust*
Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis
(Gold cultivars)

The Native-Friendly Garden

Come check out some of these alternative plants at Cornell University’s Long Island Horticultural Research & Extension Center! A small, “Native-Friendly” Garden was created as a research and demonstration site for horticulture professionals & homeowners. Visit us at:

3059 Sound Avenue
Riverhead, NY 11901
631-727-3595

The Native-Friendly Garden was designed and installed by Alexis Alvey.

Did you know?

Invasive plants also pose a serious threat to Long Island's local economy. Expensive invasive plant control measures need to be taken in order to maintain the value and beauty of Long Island's numerous parks, golf courses, water bodies, and farms.
Moderately Invasive Plants NOT Banned on Long Island & Their Alternatives
(Plants on the Management List)

The Management List
The Management List consists of over 80 invasive plants. Although not as highly invasive as plants on the Do Not Sell List, it is recommended that these plants are not planted on Long Island, especially by county agencies or for homes near natural habitats. Species on the Management List are “moderately invasive” according to the independent scientific review committee.

Amur Maple
Acer ginnala
Trident Maple
Acer buergerianum
Red Budkeye*
Aesculus pavia
Eastern Redbud*
Cercis canadensis

Russian-olive
Elaeagnus angustifolia
Chinese or White* Fringetree
Chionanthus retusus
C. virginicus
Corkscrew Willow
Salix matsudana
Chastetree
Vitex agnus-castus

English Ivy
Hedera helix
Crossvine*
Bignonia capreolata
Carolina Yellow Jessamine*
Gelsemium sempervirens
(Cold hardy cultivars)
Climbing Hydrangea
Hydrangea anomala subsp. petiolaris
Japanese Hydrangea-vine
Schizophragma hydrangeoides

Creeping Jenny or Moneywort

Lysimachia nummularia
Green and Gold*
Chrysogonum virginianum
Spotted Dead Nettle
Lamium maculatum
Creeping Mazus
Mazus reptans
Siberian Barren-strawberry
Waldsteinia ternata

For gold cultivars of L. nummularia:
Coral* or Foamy Bells
Heuchera
X Heucherella
(Gold cultivars)

Goldmoss Stonecrop
Sedum acre
Japanese Stonecrop
Sedum makinoi
(Gold cultivars)

Creeping Speedwell
Veronica prostrata
V. repens
(Gold cultivars)

Running Bamboo †
Phyllostachys spp.
(including P. aurea, P. aureosulcata, and P. nigra)
Clumping Bamboo
Fargesia spp.

Japanese Black Pine
Pinus thunbergii
Limber Pine*
Pinus flexilis
Japanese White Pine
Pinus parviflora
Pitch Pine**
Pinus rigida

Callery Pear
Pyrus calleryana
Downy**, Apple**, or Allegheny**
Serviceberry
Amelanchier arborea
A. x grandiflora
A. laevis
Hybrid Dogwood
Cornus spp.
Green Hawthorn*
Crataegus viridis
Loebner or Star Magnolia
Magnolia x loebneri
M. stellata

Rugosa Rose
Rosa rugosa
Bush Cinquefoil**
Potentilla fruticosa
Beach Plum**
Prunus maritima
Shrub Roses
Rosa spp.
Virginia Rose**
Rosa virginiana

Common Periwinkle
Vinca minor
Barrenwort
Epimedium x perralchicum
E. x versicolor
Creeping Mazus
Mazus reptans
Creeping Phlox*
Phlox stolonifera
Dwarf Sweetbox
Sarcococca hookeriana var. humilis

Japanese and Chinese Wisteria
Wisteria floribunda
W. sinensis
Climbing Hydrangea
Hydrangea anomala subsp. petiolaris
Japanese Hydrangea-vine
Schizophragma hydrangeoides
American Wisteria*
Wisteria frutescens

*Native to the United States  ** Native to New York State (hybrids and cultivars of native species included)
†Check local laws to see if there are further restrictions on running and clumping bamboos in a specific municipality.
Visit the Nursery & Landscape Program website <http://covesuffolk.org/nursery-landscape-program/> for related resources, this fact sheet and other publications on invasive species.