

## Thanks but no thanks!

The OHS promotes eco-responsible gardening. Some invasive, non-native plants constitute a significant threat to natural spaces in and around the Ottawa region. These natural spaces include but are not restricted to forests, meadows and waterways.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency identifies about 486 invasive or 'weedy' species. About 91 percent of them –about 441 invasive plant species – are present in Ontario. (Source: Ontario Invasive Plant Council, a document called A Landowner's Guide to Managing and Controlling Invasive Plants in Ontario.)

The following garden plants are considered non-native invasive plants by the **City of Ottawa**. They should not be planted near natural areas. To protect our natural spaces, the Ottawa Horticultural Society (OHS) requests these plants NOT be donated or sold at OHS plant sales or other events. Donors have a responsibility to carefully label their plants and not donate invasive plant species. Sellers also have the responsibility to politely say “Thanks But No Thanks” to any invasive plant species offered at an OHS event.

- Amur maple – *Acer ginnala*
- Black locust – *Robinia pseudoacacia*
- Bugleweed – *Ajuga reptans*
- Creeping Jenny (moneywort) – *Lysimachia nummularia*
- Common and Japanese barberry – *Berberis vulgaris* and *B. thunbergii*
- Dame's rocket – *Hesperis matronalis*
- Day lily 'fulva' – *Hemerocallis fulva*
- English ivy – *Hedera helix*
- European linden – *Tilia cordata*
- European mountain-ash – *Sorbus aucuparia*
- Goutweed – *Aegopodium podagraria*
- Honeysuckle, including Amur's, Bell's, European fly, Morrow and Tatarian (or Tartarian)– *Lonicera maackii*, *L. X bella*, *L. xylosteum*, *L. morrowii* and *L. tatarica*
- Japanese Knotweed – *Fallopia japonica*
- Lily of the valley – *Convallaria majalis*
- Oriental bittersweet – *Celastrus orbiculatus*
- Miscanthus grasses – *Miscanthus sinensis* and *Miscanthus sacchariflorus*

- Norway maple (including red-leaved varieties) – *Acer platanoides*
- Periwinkle – *Vinca minor*
- Spotted deadnettle – *Lamium maculatum*

In addition, the **Ontario Native Plant Council** lists these plants, also outside their natural range, whose presence poses environmental and other threats:

- Autumn olive - *Elaeagnus umbellata*
- Black locust - see above
- Buckthorn - *Rhamnus cathartica*
- Dog-strangling vine - *Vincetoxicum rossicum*
- European black alder - *Alnus glutinosa*
- Garlic mustard - *Alliaria petiolata*
- Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*),
- Invasive honeysuckles (see above),
- Multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*),
- Phragmites (*Phragmites australis subsp.australis*),
- Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*),
- Reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea subsp. arundinacea*),
- Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*),
- Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*),
- Sweet white clover (*Melilotus albus*)
- Wild parsnip (*Pastinacea sativa*).

To protect natural spaces, native plants should not be dug up from the wild. Native plants for sale should be propagated from seeds or divisions from garden plants.

For further information, please check out these websites:

**City of Ottawa Invasive Species-** <https://ottawa.ca/en/living-ottawa/environment-conservation-and-climate/wildlife-and-plants/plants/invasive-species>

**Ontario Invasive Plant Council-**<https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca>