

## Japanese Knotweed— *Fallopia japonica*



**Identification:** Growth up to 10' in height. Stems are smooth, reddish-green, and segmented. Branched sprays of greenish-white flowers.

**Management:** Smother for 5+ years with black plastic or tarping.

## Wild Parsnip — *Pastinaca sativa*



**\*WARNING\*** Contact with this plant can cause serious injury **\*WARNING\***

**Identification:** Yellow umbel flowers. Leaves are alternate, compound and branched with jagged teeth.

**Management:** Smother for 1-2 years with black plastic or tarping.

# The Greensboro Landowner's Guide to Invasive Plants

Identify & Manage 10 of Greensboro's Most **Dangerous** Plants



Japanese Knotweed — *Fallopia japonica*

## Poison Hemlock — *Conium maculatum*

**\*WARNING\*** Ingestion of this plant can cause serious injury **\*WARNING\***

**Identification:** White umbel flowers. Reddish-purple splotches along the stem.

**Management:** Smother for 1-2 years with black plastic or tarping.



## Wall Lettuce — *Mycelis muralis*



**Identification:** Flower head consists of 5 yellow, strap-shaped ray florets. Leaves are glabrous and deeply lobed, with broad, terminal segments.

**Management:** Hand pulling before the flowers have gone to seed.

## Additional Resources

### Vermont Invasives

[www.vtinvasives.org](http://www.vtinvasives.org)

### National Invasives Species Information Center

[www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov](http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov)

Please scan the QR code to the right to submit a brief survey.

And feel free to reach out to [will.s.marlier@gmail.com](mailto:will.s.marlier@gmail.com) with any questions or to report any invasives you identify in Greensboro.



*The Greensboro Conservation*  
— *Commission* —

## What is an Invasive Species?

The USDA defines an invasive species as

“an alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health”.

## Why are Invasive Species Dangerous?

Invasive species are dangerous in many ways.

Some invasives pose threats to physical wellbeing. Humans, pets, and wildlife can be harmed by poisonous or noxious invasives.

All invasives pose existential threats to our local biodiversity. Native species can be particularly sensitive to invasive species. Oftentimes native species are unable to compete with the foreign invaders, leading to loss of habitat and potential extinction.

## What can I do to help?

You can be the steward of your own land. Learn which invasives are present on your property, then formulate a plan to manage them.

You are not alone.

We are fortunate to live in a community filled with individuals who are knowledgeable and passionate about our environment. Ask for help if you are unsure of how to address your invasives.

## Common Buckthorn - *Rhamnus cathartica*



**Identification:** Bark is dark gray and inner bark is orange. 4-petaled flowers are yellowish-green. Leaves are dark green, oval, and slightly serrated.

**Management:** Girdle mature trees by removing a 4” band of bark around the trunk. Hand pull small trees.

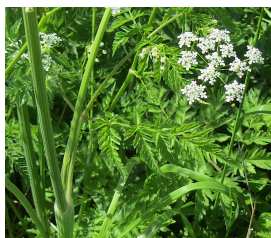
## Common Reed — *Phragmites australis*

**Identification:** Growth up to 15’ in height. Leaves are long, flat, and glabrous. Flowers are dense, fluffy, and grayish-purple.

**Management:** Remove dead stalks and cut living stalks below the water line. Digging up and disposing of roots can be effective.



## Cow Parsley — *Anthriscus sylvestris*



**\*CAUTION\*** Contact with this plant can cause minor rashes **\*CAUTION\***

**Identification:** AKA Wild Chervil. White umbel flowers. Hairy stems without splotches.

**Management:** Cut or dig then smother with black plastic or tarping.

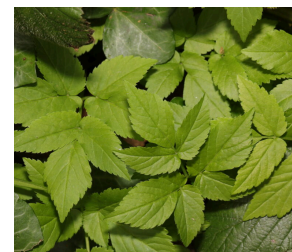
## Garlic Mustard — *Alliaria petiolata*

**Identification:** First-year leaves are heart-shaped, no flowers. Second-year leaves become triangular, flowers have 4 small, white petals.

**Management:** Hand-pull before flowers go to seed. Seedbank can last 10+ years.



## Goutweed — *Aegopodium podagraria*



**Identification:** AKA Bishop’s Weed. White umbel flowers. Leaves are either green or green w/ white edges (variegated). Leaflets are ovate.

**Management:** Cut then smother with black plastic or tarping for 1-2 years.

## Honeysuckle Shrubs — *Lonicera sp.*

**Identification:** There are 4 species of invasive honeysuckle. All have a hollow pith. Opposite, egg shaped leaves. Red or red-orange berries.

**Management:** Cut, cover stump with plastic, and prune occasionally. Small plants can be hand pulled.



