

# KEEP A LOOKOUT

## for **WIDESPREAD** INVASIVE PLANTS

### in Southeastern Wisconsin!



These plants are already widespread and damaging in our region, but have not yet invaded some of our natural habitats. Diligent monitoring to prevent their spread into yet untouched areas is essential. Control (or eradication) of these **WIDESPREAD** invasive plants in areas they are just beginning to colonize can limit their advance and keep our nice areas nice.

#### ACTIONS:

1. Monitor and report spread into un-infested natural habitats.
2. Control or eradicate new infestations in nice natural habitats.

**TO REPORT**, visit [sewisc.org/invasives](http://sewisc.org/invasives) or [dnr.wi.gov/invasives](http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives) and scroll to "Take Action", or call (608) 267-7438, or email [invasive.species@wisconsin.org](mailto:invasive.species@wisconsin.org).

**FOR CONTROL** and management information, visit [sewisc.org](http://sewisc.org), [dnr.wi.gov/invasives](http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives), [imapinvasives.org](http://imapinvasives.org).

**FOR ID** and distribution, visit [botany.wisc.edu/wisflora](http://botany.wisc.edu/wisflora), [wisplants.uwsp.edu](http://wisplants.uwsp.edu), and [plants.usda.gov](http://plants.usda.gov).



**Common Buckthorn**  
(*Rhamnus cathartica*)

Shrub or tree reaching 20' tall. Dark **bark** with silvery marks called lenticels. **Leaves** are dull green, toothed-edged and female plants have dark **fruits** in fall and winter. Threatens woodlands and prairies.



**Glossy Buckthorn**  
(*Frangula alnus* = *Rhamnus frangula*)

Shrub or tree reaching 20' tall. Dark **bark** with silvery marks called lenticels. **Leaves** are untoothed and shiny on top. **Fruits** ripen from red to dark purple from July – September. Threatens wetlands.



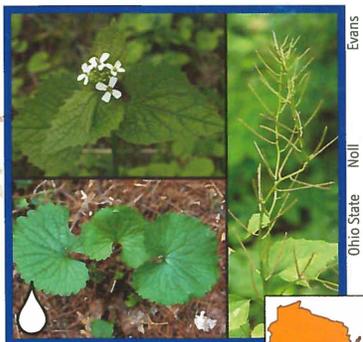
**Non-native Bush Honeysuckles**  
(*Lonicera* spp.)

Large shrubs reaching heights of 10'. Oblong or oval **leaves** which are slightly hairy underneath. **Flowers** bloom in June, abundant and pink which fade to yellow as they age. **Bark** is gray and shaggy with hollow older branches. Threatens woodlands, fields, and pastures.



**Multiflora Rose**  
(*Rosa multiflora*)

Spreading, very thorny shrub to 15' height and 13' wide. 5 to 11 small oval **leaflets** with toothed margins; nearly smooth on upper surface and paler with short hairs on undersides. White **flowers** with 5 petals. Blooms in May or June. Small red **fruit**; nearly round in clusters which form in August and remain throughout winter. Threatens pastures, prairies, and open woods.



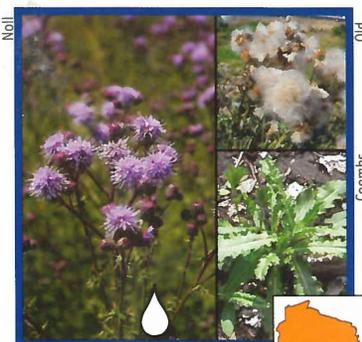
**Garlic Mustard**  
(*Alliaria petiolata*)

Cool-season, biennial herb grows 12" to 40" tall, has triangular shaped **leaves** with toothed edges, and smells of garlic when crushed. Clusters of small **flowers** with 4 petals. Blooms in May. First year plants are low rosettes with rounded leaves. Threatens native woodland habitat.



**Spotted Knapweed**  
(*Centaurea biebersteinii*)

Short-lived perennial herb. First-year plants form low-growing rosettes. Flowering **stems** leafy, 1' to 2' tall with wiry, hoary branches. **Leaves** grayish, hairy, deeply cut with narrow lobes. **Flowers** thistle-like, pink to purple, base covered by black-tipped bracts. Blooms late June - September. Threatens savannas, grasslands, sand dunes and prairies.



**Canada Thistle**  
(*Cirsium arvense*)

Perennial forming clones, spreading by deep rhizomes, 2' to 5' tall with slender, hairy, grooved stems that branch at the top. Oblong **leaves** lobed with smooth surface and spines along crinkled edges. Several purple and fragrant **flowers** at upper part of plant. Very small **seeds** have tuft of hair for wind dispersal. Threatens prairies, woodlands, wetlands, and sedge meadows.



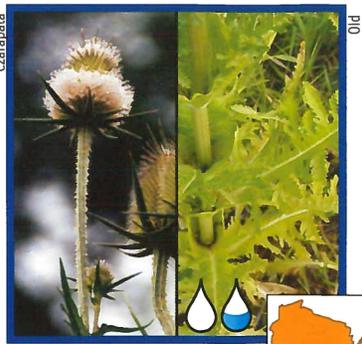
**Crown Vetch**  
(*Coronilla varia*)

Creeping, perennial legume 2' to 6' long. Able to spread by rhizomes and rapidly take over an area. Compound **leaves** have 15 to 25 pairs of small, oblong leaflets. **Flowers** are 5-parted, white to pink, and grow in a round, dense umbel resembling a crown. Blooms May – Sept; produces **long** narrow **pods** with slender seeds. Threatens prairies and open fields.



**Common Teasel**  
(*Dipsacus fullonum*  
subsp. *sylvestris*)

Monocarpic perennial herbs. First year plants form low-growing rosettes, second or third year produces a 2' to 6' spiny **stem** which remains upright in winter. **Leaves** are not divided. **Flowers** thistle-like pink or purple, bloom June – October. Threatens prairies, sedge meadows and pastures.



**Cut-leaved Teasel**  
(*Dipsacus laciniatus*)

Monocarpic perennial herbs. First year plants form low-growing rosettes, second or third year produces a 2' to 6' spiny **stem** which remains upright in winter. **Leaves** have feathery deep lobes. **Flowers** thistle-like white, bloom July – September. Threatens prairies, sedge meadows and pastures.



**Dame's Rocket**  
(*Hesperis matronalis*)

Showy, short-lived perennial. Large, loose clusters of fragrant white, pink or purple 4-petaled **flowers** that bloom from May to July on 2' to 3' stalks. Threatens moist and mesic woodlands, especially in floodplains.



**Purple Loosestrife**  
(*Lythrum salicaria*)

Wetland perennial growing 2' to 7' tall. **Stem** is stiff and usually angled with 4 or more sides. **Leaves** are opposite or in whorls of 3, flat with smooth edges. **Flowers** have 5 or 6 rose-purple petals that form a spike blooming from bottom to top of the spike. Blooms from July – September. Threatens wetlands, lakes and rivers.



**White and Yellow Sweet Clover**  
(*Melilotus alba* and *M. officinalis*)

Biennial legumes. Both are similar; yellow is smaller and blooms earlier. **First year plants** do not produce flowers, and have smaller branched stems with compound **leaves** of 3 finely toothed leaflets; middle leaflet stalked. **Second year plant** has same leaf structure, but grows 3' to 5' high with densely packed clusters of flowers. Threatens prairies, savannas and dunes.



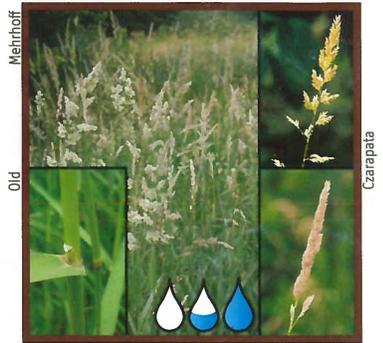
**Wild Parsnip**  
(*Pastinaca sativa*)

**Caution! Juice of plant causes severe burns, avoid all contact with skin.** Rosette has 6" to 18" compound **leaves** until it flowers. **Flower** stalks grow ~4' tall and have umbrella-like clusters of yellow flowers that form large flat seeds. Blooms from June – July. Plants can flower after 2 to 5 years as a rosette and die after flowering. Threatens prairies, oak openings and fens.



**Watercress**  
(*Nasturtium officinale*)

Perennial aquatic herb. Spreading **stems** float in water or root in and creep over mud. Alternate **leaves** up to 6" divided into 3 to 9 oval leaflets; may remain green over winter. **White flowers** with 4 petals in clusters; blooms April – October. Threatens cold clear springs and streams.



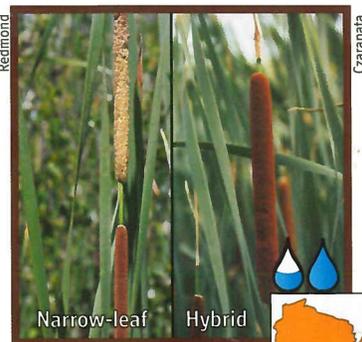
**Reed Canary Grass**  
(*Phalaris arundinacea*)

Large coarse grass reaches 2' to 6' in height. The **stem** is hairless with tapering **leaf** blades 3" to 10" long. Flowering occurs from May – mid-June. **Flowers** appear purple to green at first then change to beige. Threatens streambanks, wet meadows, lowland forests and wetlands.



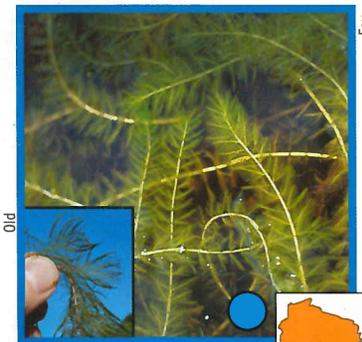
**Common Reed Grass**  
(*Phragmites australis*)

Perennial reed grass with gray-green **leaves**, is found most often in large colonies, ranging in height from 6' to 13'. Large light-brown to purple **flower** spike appears between July and September. Threatens open wetlands, riverbanks and lakeshores.



**Narrow-leaf and Hybrid Cattail**  
(*Typha angustifolia* and *T. x glauca*)

Aquatic perennials. Narrow-leaved cattail has a 0.4" to 0.5" gap between the **female flower** (brown at maturity and below the male flower) and **male flower** (extends to tip of flower head). Hybrid has a 0.2" to 2" gap and a longer and thicker female flower section. Threatens wetlands, river backwaters.



**Eurasian Water Milfoil**  
(*Myriophyllum spicatum*)

Submersed perennial. **Stem** thickens below the inflorescence and doubles its width further down. **Leaves** threadlike, 9 to 21 pairs of leaflets, typically uniform in diameter. **Flowers** four-petaled or without petals, bloom mid-summer. **Fruits** nut-like, four-jointed. Spreads by plant fragments. Threatens lakes, ponds, slow moving streams, reservoirs and estuaries.



Restricted Species

Prohibited Species

Species without a map are not regulated by NR 40 (WI's Invasive Species Rule)

Tree Forb

Shrub Grass

Vine

SOMEWHAT WET  
Floodplain forests, seasonally flooded basins

WET  
Wet meadows, shrub swamps, wooded swamps

VERY WET  
Deep marsh, shallow marsh

AQUATIC



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This institution is an equal opportunity provider.