

What can you do?

Search your property for invasive species. Consider trying to eradicate these species to prevent plant reproduction. If invasives exist in your garden, substitute them with native species. This will help protect New London's natural communities.



Consider replacing the invasive burning bush plant with species such as Highbush cranberry (*viburnum trilobum*) or Highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) both which are hardy native shrubs that display an array of colors from the spring through the fall and have berries which will attract wildlife.

Visit your local nursery for more ideas and information on native plant species.



For more information on invasive species and control techniques visit these helpful websites

<http://agriculture.nh.gov/>

<http://www.invasivespecies.gov/>

<http://invasives.eeb.uconn.edu/ipane>

www.des.state.nh.us/wmb/exoticspecies

For information specific to New London and the 2003 Invasive Species Survey check out the Virtual Herbarium Website

<http://www.colby-sawyer.edu/academic/ces/herbarium/index.html>

Questions or Comments?

Contact New London Conservation Commission member Laura Alexander at lalexander@colby-sawyer.edu

Photos Courtesy of Doug Cygan Invasive Species Coordinator, NH Department of Agriculture

Brochure Designed by Colby-Sawyer College student Stacey Philbrook for the New London Conservation Commission

INVASIVE SPECIES



Oriental Bittersweet



Japanese Barberry



Burning Bush



Japanese Knotweed



Purple Loosestrife



Norway Maple



Common Reed

**Help Preserve New London's
Natural Communities**

What is an invasive species?

An invasive species is defined as a non-native species whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm, or harm to human health by establishing a thriving and expanding population that becomes dominant or disruptive to a native ecosystem.

Invasive species are usually so successful because they have a lack of natural predators, reproduce in a widespread and rapid manner, including seed production and sprouting new growth from their root systems, and can easily adapt to various habitat conditions. Invasive species are extremely prolific and will quickly overcrowd an area and starve other species of much needed sunlight.

What action is NH taking to deal with this problem?

The NH Prohibited Plant Species List was enacted on January 1, 2004 banning the collection, transportation, cultivation, transplantation and propagation of thirty two plant species. Three more species will be added to this list as of January 1, 2007 including Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), Burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*), and Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), all of which are common landscape plants.

New London's Invasive Species

In 2003 an Invasive Species Survey was conducted in the town of New London, primarily investigating plants growing along public roadways. The study found that several invasive species exist throughout the town. The following are some of the most frequently identified plant species.



Burning Bush

Euonymus alatus

Has the ability to grow to 20' in height but is more commonly seen as a 3-5' garden shrub.



Leaves 1-3" long, turn brilliant red in the fall. Easily distinguished by four paper-thin wings running the length of the twigs.

Japanese Knotweed

Polygonum cuspidatum

Reaching 12' in height, persistent and extremely fast growing. Leaves 3-7" long usually having a



squared base. Numerous white flowers with a fluffy appearance. Stems are jointed, similar to bamboo. Roots sprout new growth.

Japanese Barberry

Berberis thunbergii

Leaves are clustered and whorled around the stem usually 1/2 -1" long. Thorns are thin,



very sharp and 1/2" long. Small yellow flowers and red berries droop from the stem.

Common Reed

Phragmites australis

This species can grow anywhere from 3-14' tall. Bluish-green leaves reach 24" long and are stiff

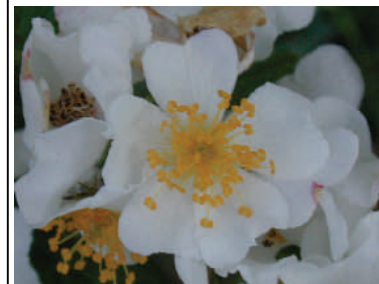


and sharp to the touch. The flower at the top of the plant is purple to brown and appears feathery. Brown stalks persist through winter.

Multiflora Rose

Rosa multiflora

Grows 3-8' tall. Leaves are compound, alternate, and roughly toothed; turn yellow in the fall. Long



arching red canes can sprout new growth. Very sharp, curved thorns. Rose hips turn red in the fall and persist through winter.