

## What is IPSAWG?

To identify which gardening plants are invasive in Indiana, a partnership called the **Invasive Plant Species Assessment Working Group (IPSAWG)** was formed in 2001. The many agencies and organizations listed below worked together to assess dozens of species used in landscaping to determine which were invasive or potentially invasive, and to develop recommendations for the use of each of the species. This brochure contains the results and recommendations from this effort.

### IPSAWG Partners:

Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative  
 Hoosier National Forest  
 Indiana Academy of Science  
 Indiana Beekeeper's Association  
 Indiana Chapter-American Society of Landscape Architects  
 Indiana Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey Program  
 Indiana Department of Environmental Management  
 Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
 Indiana Department of Transportation  
 Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore  
 Indiana Forage Council  
 Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society  
 Indiana Nursery and Landscape Association  
 Indiana Seed Trade Association  
 Indiana State Beekeepers Association  
 Indiana Wildlife Federation  
 Natural Resource Conservation Service  
 Purdue Cooperative Extension Service  
 Seed Administrator, Office of the Indiana State Chemist  
 The Nature Conservancy  
 The Wildlife Society, Indiana Chapter  
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



## For More Information

[www.invasivespecies.in.gov](http://www.invasivespecies.in.gov)

IPSAWG assessment for each species and fact sheets containing identification and control information

<http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/>

Information on identification and control of invasive species

<http://inpaws.org/>

More non-invasive alternatives and suppliers

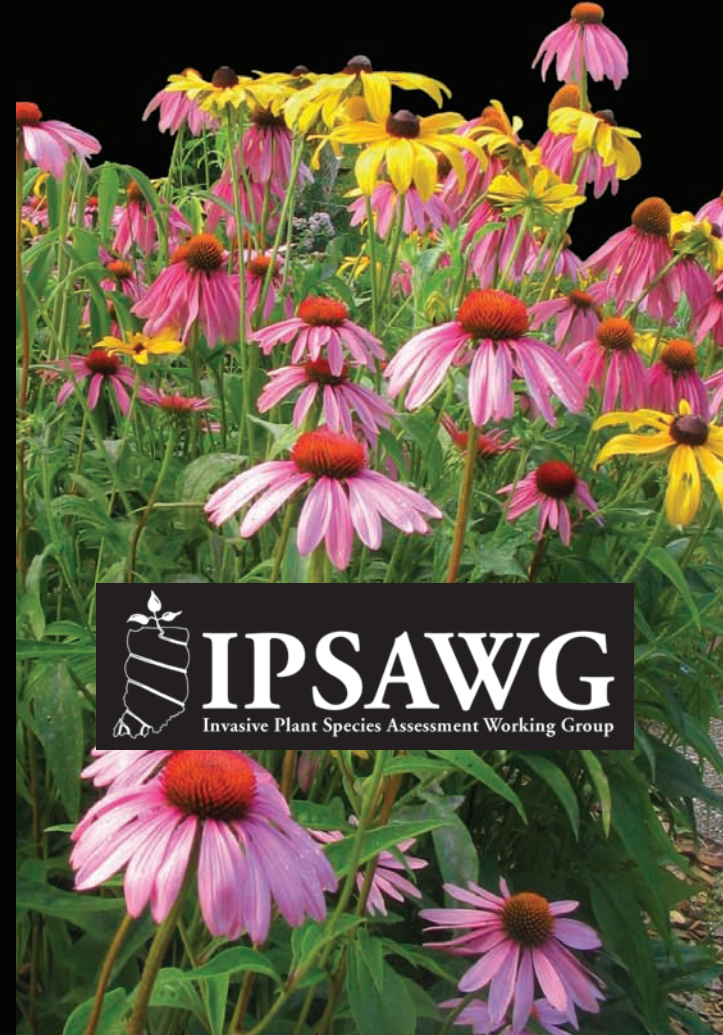
<http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/CAPS/>

Information on the range and status of invasive plants throughout Indiana



Tiger eyes sumac (*Rhus typhina* cv. 'Tiger Eyes', cv.) is a dwarf, slow spreading sumac with lacy, luminous leaves. (A. Bracalente photo)

# Landscaping with Non-Invasive Plant Species: Making the RIGHT Choice



Funding for this brochure provided by:  
 IDNR Urban Forest Conservation Fund  
 Indiana Academy of Science  
 Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society  
 The Nature Conservancy



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## Landscaping with Non-Invasive Plant Species: Making the RIGHT Choice

Gardening is a fun and relaxing hobby enjoyed by many. Unfortunately, some of the plant species available to gardeners are invasive; that is, these plant species can move from the garden into our forests, prairies, and wetlands, causing a great deal of damage to our native plants and wildlife. Private landowners, agencies, and land trusts in Indiana spend hundreds of thousands of dollars each year trying to control the spread of invasive species.

**You Can Help! Make the right landscaping choice - don't plant invasives! There are thousands of non-invasive alternatives. Several alternatives are featured in this brochure; those species native to Indiana are identified by **N****



Queen of the prairie (*Filipendula rubra*) is 5' tall with frothy pink flowers in early summer. (S. Goehl photo)



Purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*) has long-lasting purple flowers in June and July. (E. Jacquart photo)



Skullcap (*Scutellaria incana*) has blue flowers in July and is shade tolerant. (F. Solkowski photo)

### INVASIVE GARDEN SPECIES IN INDIANA AND IPSAWG RECOMMENDATIONS:

#### DO NOT BUY, SELL OR PLANT IN INDIANA

FLOWERS

COMMON NAME	LATIN NAME	INVASIVENESS
Crownvetch	<i>Coronilla varia</i>	MEDIUM
Dame's rocket	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	HIGH
Japanese knotweed	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>	MEDIUM
Multiflora rose <sup>1</sup>	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	HIGH
Purple loosestrife <sup>1</sup>	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	HIGH

<sup>1</sup> Illegal in Indiana.

Results based upon the IPSAWG assessments of Ecological Impact, Potential for Expansion, and Difficulty of Control for each species. Visit [www.invasivespecies.in.gov](http://www.invasivespecies.in.gov) for more specifics on each species.

**HIGH**, **MEDIUM**, and **LOW** rankings are used for those invasive species already in Indiana and currently having a documented impact on native plant communities in the state.



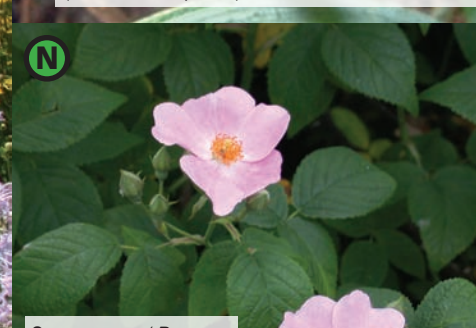
Blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*) is a delicate 6" plant with grass-like leaves and purple flowers blooming in June. (F. Solkowski photo)



Firepink (*Silene virginica*) is a spring wildflower with dazzling red flowers that grows well in dry conditions. (A. Bracalente photo)



Yellow coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*) and wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*) need full sun but do well in a wide variety of soil conditions. (R. Ciasto photo)

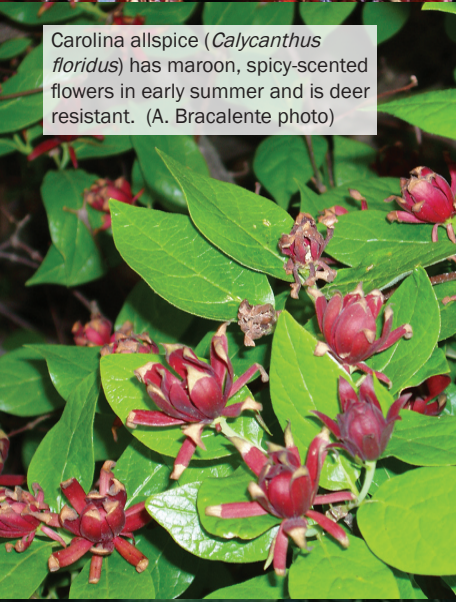


Swamp rose (*Rosa palustris*) up to 6' tall with mid-summer pink, fragrant blooms. (R. Ciasto photo)





Red maple (*Acer rubrum*) reaches 40' - 60' tall, with brilliant red or yellow fall color. (A. Bracalente photo)



Carolina allspice (*Calycanthus floridus*) has maroon, spicy-scented flowers in early summer and is deer resistant. (A. Bracalente photo)



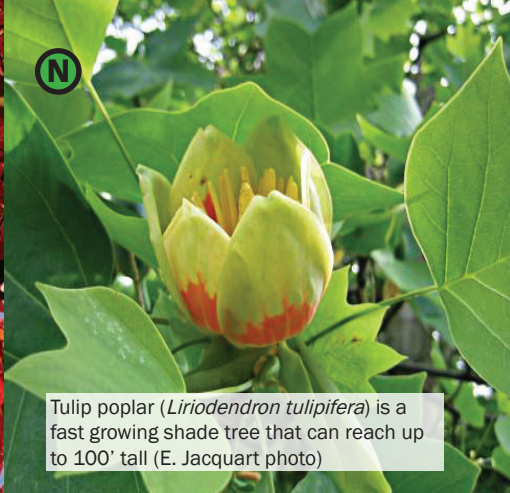
Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*) is a medium-sized, highly adaptable shrub with long narrow flower spikes. (H. Cox photo)



Indiangrass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) is a 4' - 5' grass with bronze seed heads in the fall. (H. Cox photo)



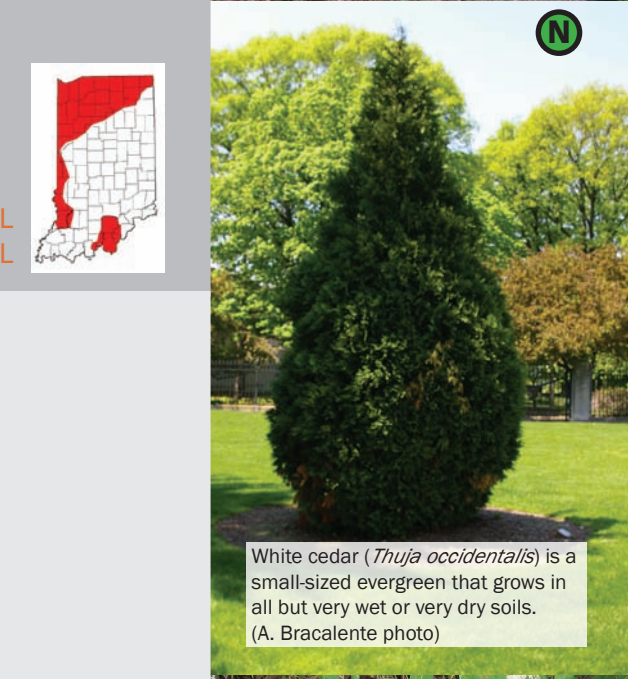
Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) is a short, tuft-forming grass which turns bronze in the fall and does well on dry sites. (A. Bracalente photo)



Tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) is a fast growing shade tree that can reach up to 100' tall. (E. Jacquart photo)



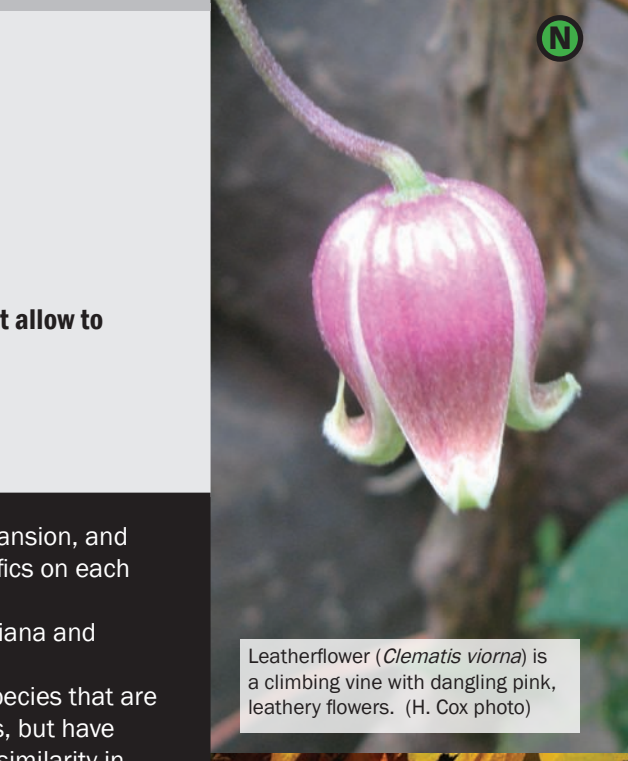
Red buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*) is a small tree covered with red showy flowers in spring; grows best in moist soils. (A. Bracalente photo)



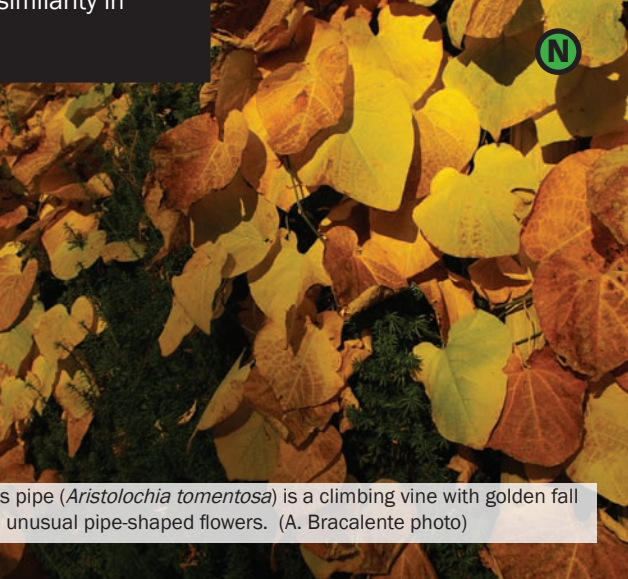
White cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*) is a small-sized evergreen that grows in all but very wet or very dry soils. (A. Bracalente photo)



New Jersey tea (*Ceanothus americana*) is a small shrub (under 3') with white balls of flowers in summer; does well on dry sites. (H. Cox photo)



Leatherflower (*Clematis viorna*) is a climbing vine with dangling pink, leathery flowers. (H. Cox photo)



Dutchman's pipe (*Aristolochia tomentosa*) is a climbing vine with golden fall foliage and unusual pipe-shaped flowers. (A. Bracalente photo)

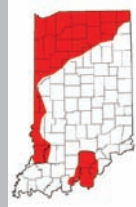
**INVASIVE GARDEN SPECIES IN INDIANA AND IPSAWG RECOMMENDATIONS:**

TREES

**DO NOT BUY, SELL OR PLANT IN INDIANA**

COMMON NAME	LATIN NAME	INVASIVENESS
Norway maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	MEDIUM
Sawtooth oak	<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	MEDIUM POTENTIAL
Siberian elm	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	MEDIUM POTENTIAL

**PLANT WITH CAUTION:** Do not plant these species near open natural areas like prairies, savannas, or glades. The portions of Indiana where these vulnerable communities are found are shown in red on the Indiana map.



SHRUBS

**DO NOT BUY, SELL OR PLANT IN INDIANA**

COMMON NAME	LATIN NAME	INVASIVENESS
Asian bush honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera maackii</i> , <i>L. tatarica</i> , <i>L. morrowii</i> , <i>L. x bella</i>	HIGH
Autumn olive	<i>Eleagnus umbellata</i>	MEDIUM
Blunt-leaved privet	<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i>	HIGH
Common buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	HIGH POTENTIAL
Glossy buckthorn	<i>Frangula alnus</i>	HIGH
Japanese barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	MEDIUM
Privet	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> , <i>L. amurense</i> , <i>L. sinense</i> , <i>L. ovalifolium</i>	HIGH POTENTIAL
Russian olive	<i>Eleagnus angustifolia</i>	HIGH POTENTIAL

**PLANT WITH CAUTION:** Do not plant parent species (*Euonymus alatus*) or cultivars which produce large amounts of fruits. Cultivar 'Rudy Haag' may be a less invasive cultivar.

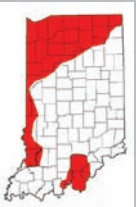
Burning bush	<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	HIGH POTENTIAL
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GRASSES

**DO NOT BUY, SELL OR PLANT IN INDIANA**

COMMON NAME	LATIN NAME	INVASIVENESS
Phragmites	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	MEDIUM
Ribbon grass, Reed canarygrass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> var. <i>picta</i>	HIGH

**PLANT WITH CAUTION:** Do not plant this species near open natural areas like prairies, savannas, or glades. The portions of Indiana where these vulnerable communities are found are shown in red on the Indiana map.



Chinese maiden grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	MEDIUM POTENTIAL
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VINES

**DO NOT BUY, SELL OR PLANT IN INDIANA**

COMMON NAME	LATIN NAME	INVASIVENESS
Kudzu <sup>1</sup>	<i>Pueraria montana</i>	HIGH
Japanese honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	HIGH
Japanese hops	<i>Humulus japonicus</i>	MEDIUM
Oriental bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	HIGH

<sup>1</sup> Illegal in Indiana.

**PLANT WITH CAUTION:** Plant these species only next to concrete or lawns, and do not allow to climb (this will prevent production and spread of seeds).

English ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	HIGH POTENTIAL
Periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor</i>	MEDIUM
Winter creeper	<i>Euonymus fortunei</i>	HIGH

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HIGH, MEDIUM, and LOW rankings are used for those invasive species already in Indiana and currently having a documented impact on native plant communities in the state. HIGH POTENTIAL, MEDIUM POTENTIAL, and LOW POTENTIAL rankings are used for species that are not currently documented as causing significant impacts to native plant communities, but have the potential to become invasive based on the Potential for Expansion measure and similarity in climate to other areas of the country where the species is already invasive.



Wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*) is a groundcover with heart-shaped leaves. (H. Cox photo)