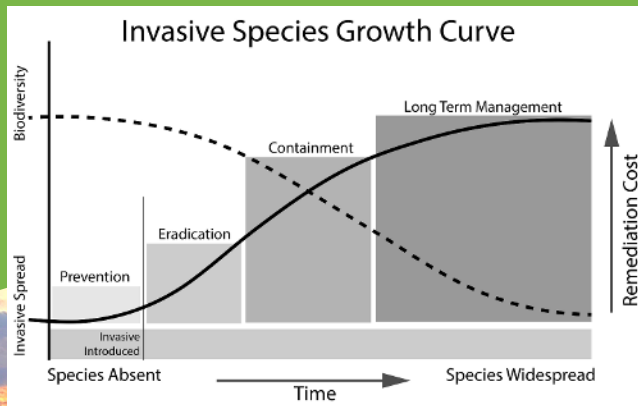


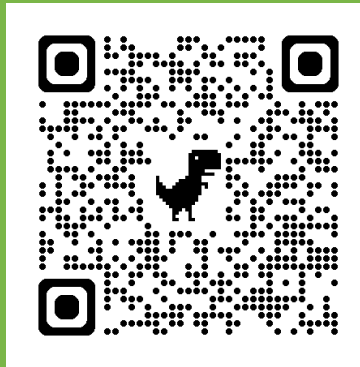
WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

North Carolina has a wide array of topographic and climatic zones, and is rich in natural biodiversity. When non-native invasive plants enter native ecosystems, they tend to have few or no unique predators, pathogens, or competitors to control their population size. Without early detection and removal severe environmental damage can occur and remediation costs increase. You can be the difference in a healthy ecosystem by educating yourself and others.

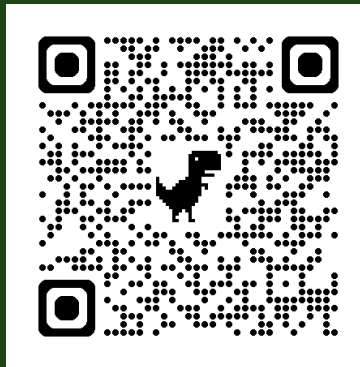


Adapted from
www.nps.gov/subjects/invasive/early-detection-rapid-response.htm

NORTH CAROLINA INVASIVE PLANTS LIST



NORTH CAROLINA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY



NC STATE EXTENSION SERVICE



North Carolina Invasive Plants The 3 Rs

Recognize - Remove - Replace



RECOGNIZE

Invasive plants typically:

- Grow fast and easily
- Reproduce rapidly
- Produce seeds abundantly
- Tolerate a wide range of environmental conditions
- Have aggressive root systems
- Produce chemicals that inhibit the growth of other plants around them

Learn to identify invasive plants by learning those that are in our area such as English Ivy, Japanese Knotweed, Burning Bush, Japanese honeysuckle, and many others. Use of an app like PlantNet can be helpful. Utilize the resources in the links in this flyer. Join a Facebook Group such as "Invasive Plant ID and Removal in US and Canada".

REMOVE

Prevention is the best way to avoid aggressive invasive plants. Don't use invasive plants in your landscape. Regularly inspect your property for invasive plants and if you discover any *act promptly!* It is much easier to remove one or two seedlings than a thousand tangled mature plants.

The North Carolina Botanical Garden has published a good resource for how to remove different types of invasive plants. Scan this QR code to access the booklet "Controlling Invasive Plants"



REPLACE

The North Carolina Native Plant Society, for one, has numerous resources for learning about and gardening with native plants. Use the QR Code above to access its website. It is important to use plants that are native to your area of North Carolina when replanting after invasive removal. Keep in mind that a plant that is native to another country or even another region of the US *could be* invasive here in North Carolina. Do your research. Landscapes are ecosystems, so a good rule of thumb is to replicate what you see in nature. Purchase plants or seeds from reputable sources. See the NC Native Plant Society website for a list of Native Plant Nurseries. It is **ILLEGAL** to remove plants from federal, state, or local public lands.

Native plants - occur naturally in a region where they evolved over thousands of years to form symbiotic relationships with other plants, native insects, and native wildlife.

Exotic (non-native) plants - plant species that are not found in an area naturally and were introduced either intentionally or by accident. Once they reproduce and establish they are referred to as **naturalized**.

Invasive plants - exotics that, once introduced, quickly reproduce and spread, and destroy ecosystems by displacing natives plants and starving out insects and wildlife that depend on them.