

Invasive Plants



**TOWN OF CARRBORO
STORMWATER DIVISION &
PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

**FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, CONTACT US AT
919-913-2999**

Welcome

Carrboro Staff

- Heather Holley
 - Stormwater Specialist
- Laura Janway
 - Environmental Sustainability Coordinator

Chapelboro Tree Rescuers Volunteers

- Steven Feuerstein
- Barbara Stenross

What are Invasive Species?

Steven Feuerstein



Why should we control invasive plants species?

- The control of invasive species is an important part of Carrboro's Community Climate Action Plan as the spread of non-native and invasive plants is a threat to forest resilience and biodiversity.
- Removing invasives, especially from stream buffers, will keep them from spreading down stream and to neighboring properties.

Common Invasive Plants Found in Carrboro



English Ivy

Chinese Privet

Stiltgrass

Bamboo

Thorny Olive



Tree of Heaven

Multiflora Rose

Autumn Olive

Nandina

Kudzu



Photo Source: NC Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox

Prepare Yourself

- **IDENTIFY THE PLANT CORRECTLY**

- *“Controlling Invasive Plants”* by NC Botanical Gardens
- NC Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox
- *“Invasive Exotic Plants of NC”* by NCDOT

- **DRESS THE PART**

- Gloves
- Eye Protection
- Long Sleeves
- Long Pants
- Boots
- Hat

- **“MAN AS A TOOL-USING ANIMAL”**

- Pruners/Loppers
- Weed Wrench
- Pullbear
- Shovel
- Pruning Saw
- Chainsaw

Controlling invasive plants in you yard

- **Pull** Stiltgrass, English Ivy (on ground), Japanese Honeysuckle, small Privets, Nandina, & Mahonia
- **Dig up** or use a weed wrench type tool on small to medium woodies
- **Cut** larger woodies
- **Consistent** annual control measures



Fig Buttercup (*Ficaria verna*)
Source: Barb Stenross

- Annual invasives are forever invasives, unless controlled.
 - Dig or pull
 - Let Stiltgrass grow until August, then cut to the ground
 - Frequent cutting encourages seeding at 3"

What plants should I use to replace invasives

For a suggested list with links to photos visit:

<https://townofcarrboro.org/2679/Invasive-Plants>

Invasive Plant Replacements				
Plant Type	Invasive			Suitable Replacements
Trees	Mimosa tree	Red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Recommended for its ability to tolerate compacted soil and pollutants, and for its fast growth. Oaks support more caterpillars (500+ species) and other beneficial insects and wildlife than any other plant species in the US
		White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	
	Bradford Pear	River birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	Fast growing deciduous tree, looks good in all seasons. Sun to part-sun, well-drained soil, but tolerates flooding. Supports 299 caterpillar species of value as pollinators and to feed birds.
	Tree of Heaven	Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Understory tree that is one of the first to bloom in spring. Sun to part-shade. Drought tolerant. If it can grow on the islands on Fordham Boulevard, it can grow in your yard. Supports 25 species of caterpillar.
		Eastern red cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Dependable, fast growing evergreen tree for sun to part-sun. Needs male pollinator for fruit. Supports 29 species of caterpillar.
Shrubs	Thorny olive	Wax myrtle	<i>Morella cerifera</i>	Beautiful evergreen shrub for screening and to provide fruit for migrating cedar waxwings and other birds. Deer hardy.
	Autumn olive	Native blueberries	<i>Vaccinium spp.</i>	Need more than one genetic strain for best fruit. Sun to part-sun. Loves our acid soil and puts on a show through 3 seasons. Host plant for ellin butterflies. May be browsed by deer.
	Chinese privet	Coastal witch-alder	<i>Fothergilla gardenii</i>	Deciduous shrub for part-sun. "One of our showiest shrubs with year-round appeal" per Larry Mellichamp, <i>Native Plants of the Southeast</i> . Reasonably deer resistant but may need protection in some areas.
	Japanese privet	Florida doghobble	<i>Agarista populifolia</i>	Fast-growing evergreen shrub with arching habit. Can be used for screening. Part-shade. Deer hardy.
	Oregon olive	Hardy anise	<i>Illicium parviflorum</i>	Excellent evergreen screening plant for part to full shade with some soil moisture. Deer hardy.
	Heavenly bamboo	American beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	Sun. Tolerates dry soil. Beautiful iridescent purple berries hug the long arching stems in the fall. Deciduous. May be browsed in some areas.
		False indigo bush	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	Sun to part-sun. Fine-textured foliage, Small purple flowers tinged in gold appear in spikelets in late spring or early summer. Supports several species of skipper butterflies. Deciduous. Deer hardy.
Vines	English ivy	Crossvine	<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>	Beautiful tropical-looking flowers on vine that is deer hardy. Sun to part-shade. Likes to grow up trees to 50 feet. Feeds hummingbirds.
	Asian wisteria	Coral honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Blooms in sync with returning hummingbirds.
	Japanese honeysuckle	Carolina jessamine	<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Tolerates wet soil. Its golden trumpet shaped flowers are attractive to hummingbirds, butterflies, and other pollinators. Flowers from February to May. Deer hardy.
	Oriental bittersweet			
Grasses, ferns, & herbaceous perennials	Japanese stillgrass	Cherokee sedge	<i>Carex cherokeensis</i>	Clumping ornamental grass, evergreen. Needs some moisture and part-sun. Deer hardy.
		River oats	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	Very ornamental clumping native grass with drooping seed heads that remain beautiful over the winter. Part-sun. Deer hardy.
		Christmas fern	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Keeps fronds through winter. Prefers cool, moist soil and shade or part-sun. Deer hardy.
	Youngia japonica	Green-and-gold	<i>Chrysogonum virginianum</i>	Yellow flowers on low-growing plant, with some varieties spreading. Part-shade, some moisture. Deer resistant.
		Little bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Ornamental grass for dry to medium soil, to 4 feet. Good for erosion control. Full sun. Deer hardy.

The NC Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox is a great resource to search for the most suitable plants for your site conditions. You can search using various site conditions and preferences.

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/>

Volunteering



Contact Laura Janway at LJanway@CarrboroNC.gov to find out about Carrboro volunteer opportunities.

To volunteer with Chapelboro Tree Rescuers visit: www.meetup.com/chapelboro-tree-rescuers/

Resources and Contact Information

Contact Chapelboro Tree Rescuers:

<https://www.meetup.com/chapelboro-tree-rescuers/>

Visit the Town's Webpage for Invasive Plants at :

<https://townofcarrboro.org/2679/Invasive-Plants>

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Questions?

Use the Chat or Raise Your Hand and we answer your questions. Use the chat if you need assistance.