



Common Buckthorn

A small tree or shrub originating from Asia that is identifiable by thorns at the end of its twigs. Unripe fruits contain emodin, which has a laxative effect.



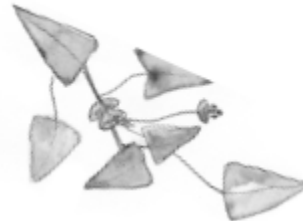
Autumn Olive

A small tree or shrub originating from Asia that is identifiable by silvery leaves and edible red berries. Makes atmospheric nitrogen available.



Common Reed

A perennial grass originating from Europe that is identifiable by its tall stem and feathery flower. Spreads rapidly through an aggressive underground root structure.



Mile-A-Minute

An annual vine originating from Asia that is identifiable by triangular leaves and blue fruits. May grow up to 6 inches per day.



Garlic Mustard

A biennial herb originating from Europe that is identifiable by kidney-shaped leaves in the first year and small white flowers in the second year. The roots and new leaves smell like garlic.



Multiflora Rose

A small tree or shrub originating from Asia that is identifiable by clustered pale flowers and thorny stems. Produces over 500,000 seeds per year.



Wild Parsnip

A biennial herb originating from Europe that is identifiable by small yellow flowers that grow in a flat array. Produces a toxic sap that makes skin especially vulnerable to UV light.



Kudzu

A perennial vine originating from Asia that is identifiable by fuzzy compound leaves. Edible purple flowers appear after three years.



Japanese Knotweed

A perennial herbaceous shrub originating from Asia that is identifiable by bamboo-like stems and clustered white flowers. Edible young shoots.



Tree of Heaven

A tree originating from Asia that is identifiable by leaflets formed by symmetrical leaf pairs. Host to the invasive spotted lanternfly.



Oriental Bittersweet

A perennial vine originating from Asia that is identifiable by toothed leaves, red fruits, and orange roots. Can grow up to 60 feet in length.



Purple Loosestrife

A perennial forb originating from Europe that is identifiable by small purple flowers growing along a spire. Prefers wetland habitats.

Common Invasive Plants in the Tivoli Lake Preserve

Illustrated by Kim Tateo



Common Reed



Invasive plants harm the ecosystem. When invasive plants take over an ecosystem, biodiversity decreases throughout the entire food web. Invasive plants also contribute to poor soil quality and oftentimes block beautiful views. Contact the Tivoli Preserve Community Farm or the Capital Mohawk PRISM to learn about local opportunities to remove invasive plants from our ecosystem.

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