

Wellesley Conservation Land Trust Educational Series

Co-sponsored with the Wellesley Free Library, Sustainable Wellesley,
Town of Wellesley Natural Resources Commission

Problems with Invasive Shrubs: Identify, Remove, Replace



WELLESLEYNATURAL
RESOURCESCOMMISSION



SUSTAINABLE
WELLESLEY

Simple solutions for lower impact living



WELLESLEY FREE
LIBRARY



Photo: Simon Glassenberg

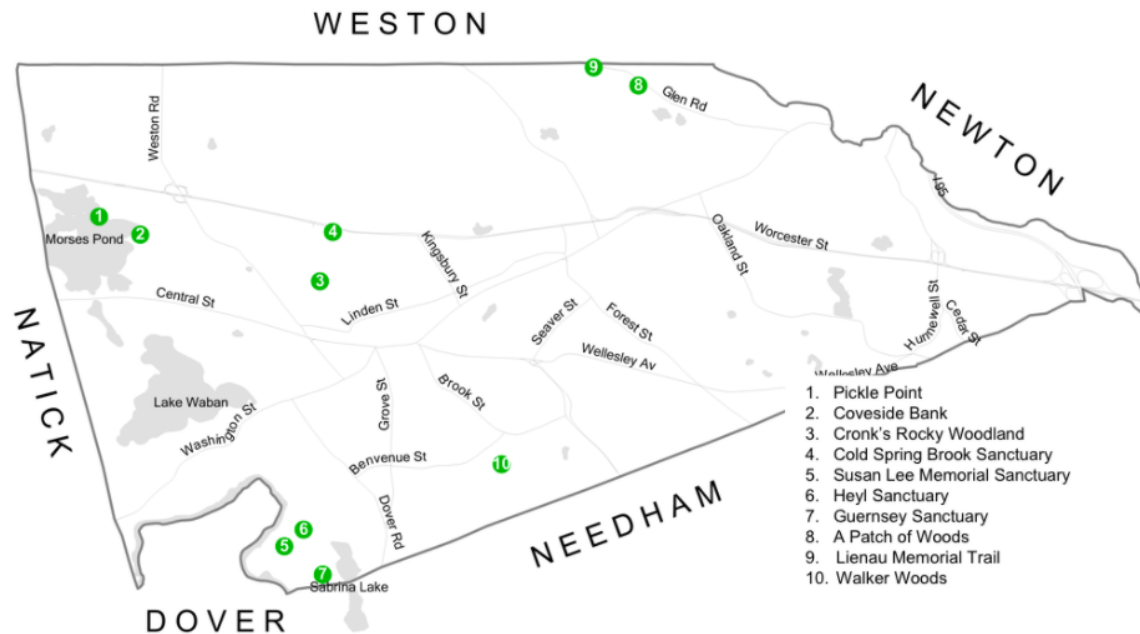
With Cricket Vlass

Wellesley Town Horticulturist and Landscape Planner

Wellesley Conservation Land Trust



- Nonprofit (501c3) Land Trust
- Founded in 1958
- 10 sanctuaries – 45+ acres
 - 5 with trails
 - Susan Lee and Heyl
 - Guernsey – 25 acres
 - Pickle Point
 - Cronk's Woodland
- Advocates for natural space protection
- Educational programs
- Funded by memberships and donations. No taxpayer dollars.





Future WCLT Educational Seminars

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| March 10, 4PM | Vernal Pools Part 1: Super Frogs!
Early Spring Wildlife of Vernal Pools (Joy Marzolf) |
| Late March | Skunk Cabbage (weather dependent) |
| April 14, 4PM | Vernal Pools Part 2: Fairies, Frogs and Damsels
Spring and Summer Wildlife of Vernal Pools (Joy Marzolf) |

Register for the upcoming events on our website [Programs/Upcoming Events](#)

Check Wellesley Conservation Land Trust [Facebook](#) for Updates

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Invasive Woodyies and their *Management*

Definition:

An invasive species is defined as a species that is

1) non-native (or alien) to an ecosystem

and

2) whose introduction causes economic or environmental harm or harm to human health

USDA

Why should we care?

- **Grow outside of their natural habitats with few or no natural enemies**
- **Grow and mature rapidly**
- **Spread quickly**
- **Produce a lot of seed**
- **Thrive in many conditions**
- **Difficult to control**
- **Can cause harm to the environment or economy**
- **Invade natural habitats**
- **Outcompete other plants for resources such as light, water, nutrients, space**
- **Too depressing to add more!**



Why am I talking tonight?

Woody shrubs are the focus

Getting worse

Management is forever

They are in your yards, even if you haven't found them yet

Our landscapes need balance

“Like it or not, gardeners have become important players in the management of our nation’s wildlife. It is now within the power of individual gardeners to do something that we all dream of doing: to make a difference. In this case, the “difference” will be to the future of biodiversity, to the native plants and animals of North America and the ecosystems that sustain them.”

Doug Tallamy

Birds feed on insects that feed on native plants.

Native plants provide food sources that have coevolved with birds and insects.

Invasive plants have not coevolved with native insects, pollinators, and birds.





“A bluebird brings to its nest one of the many thousand of insects needed to raise the babies. Ninety percent of insect species that eat plants depend on finding the plants with which they have co-evolved and have a special relationship.”

Doug Tallamy

Native plant fruits and seed provide protein and lipid levels appropriate for birds to feed their young.



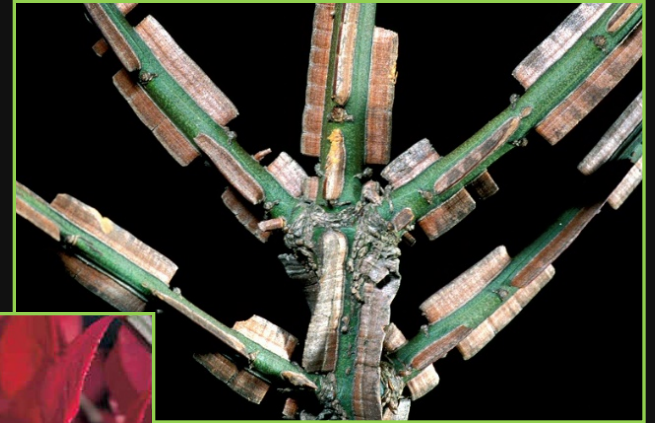
However, birds often prefer the fruit of invasive plants due to higher level of carbs. So, just like humans, birds often go for the candy bar!

A close-up photograph of a plant with vibrant green, glossy leaves and clusters of small, delicate white flowers. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a natural outdoor setting. The lighting is bright, highlighting the texture of the leaves and the intricate details of the blossoms.

**We can not eliminate
invasive plants!**

**However, with some
knowledge and effort, we
can reduce their impact on
our landscapes.**

Burning Bush (*Euonymus alatus*)





What is a native?

A plant that is a part of the balance of nature that has developed over hundreds or thousands of years in a particular region or ecosystem. Note: The word native should always be used with a geographic qualifier (that is, native to New England). Only plants found in this country before European settlement are considered to be native to the United States.

Native alternatives for red fall color



Fothergilla



Chokeberry (Aronia)



Virginia Sweetspire (Itea)



Oriental Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)





American Bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*)



Oriental Bittersweet

Native Vine Alternatives

Coral
Honeysuckle
(Lonicera)

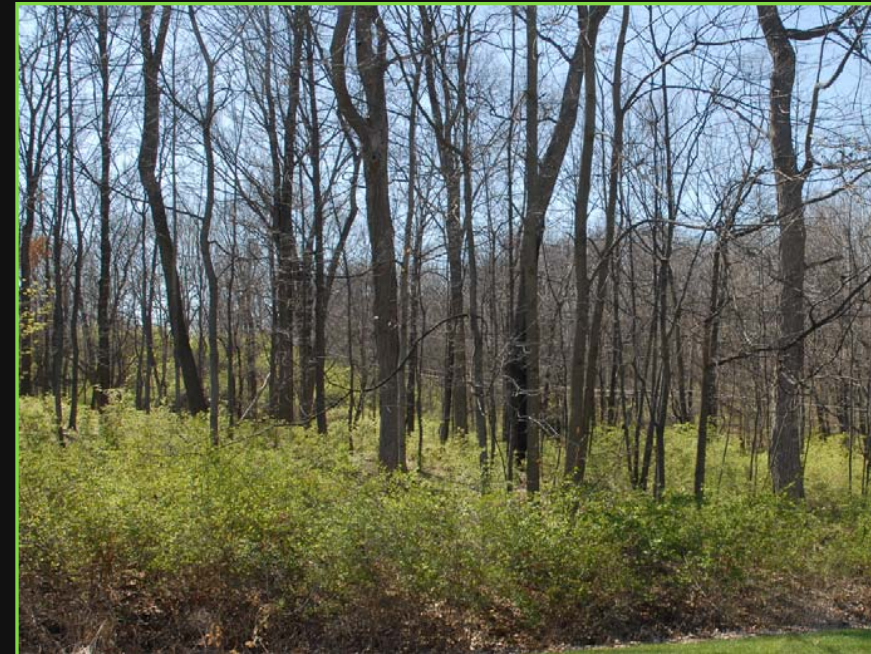


Woodbine
(Parthenocissus)

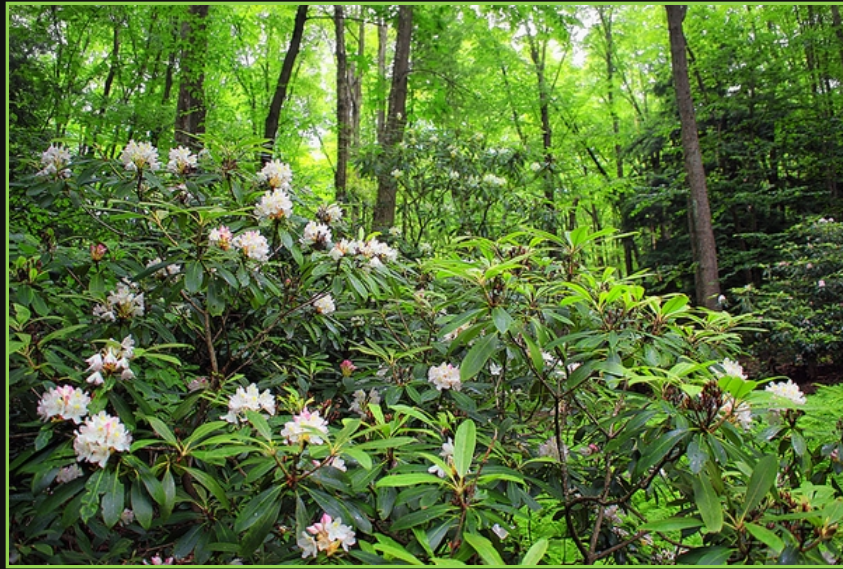


Poison Ivy (Toxicodendron)

Amur, Morrow's and Tartarian Honeysuckle (Lonicera)



Rosebay Rhododendron (*R. maximum*)



Native alternatives that tolerate shade



Northern Spicebush (*Lindera*)



American witch-hazel (*Hamamelis*)

Japanese Barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*)



Native Alternatives



Ninebark
(Physocarpus)



Winterberry (Ilex)





Sweet Fern
(Comptonia)



Inkberry (Ilex)



Aromatic Sumac
(Rhus)



Glossy Buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*)



Native Alternatives



Sweet pepperbush (Clethra)

Smooth witherod
(Viburnum)



Bayberry (Morella)



Oakleaf Hydrangea



Smooth Hydrangea



Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*)



Virginia Rose (Rosa)



Dogwood (Swida)



Highbush Blueberry (Vaccinium)



So many invasive species!



Management Tools and Strategies



Additional Information Regarding Native Plants:

- **Native Plant Trust:** www.nativeplanttrust.org
(New England Wildflower Society)
- **Grow Native Massachusetts:** www.grownativemass.org
- **Ecological Landscape Alliance:** www.ecolandscaping.org

**“Whether we like nature or not, none of us will be able to
live long without it.”** **Doug Tallamy**

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Good Luck!