

Invasive Species in the Bennington Region

Invasive Species of Particular Concern To the Bennington Region:

Species in **BOLD** are designated Class B noxious weeds in Vermont. Source: Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets:

http://agriculture.vermont.gov/plant_pest/plant_weed/invasive_noxious_weeds/noxious_weeds_list

Those with a * have been identified in Bennington County. Source: Early Detection and Mapping System: <http://www.eddmaps.org/tools/query/>; Michael S. Batcher observations; USFS/Batten Kill field inventories

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acer ginnala</i>*	Amur maple
<i>Acer platanoides</i>*	Norway maple
<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>*	Bishop's goutweed or goutweed
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of heaven
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>*	Garlic mustard
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> *	Cow parsnip or wild chervil
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>*	Japanese barberry
<i>Berberis vulgaris</i>*	Common barberry
<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	Flowering rush
<i>Cardamine impatiens</i> *	Narrow-leaved bitter-cress
<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>*	Oriental bittersweet
<i>Centaurea stoebe subsp. micranthos</i>	Spotted knapweed
<i>Euonymus alatus</i>*	Burning bush
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i> *	Autumn olive
<i>Fallopia japonica</i>*	Japanese knotweed
<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>	Frogbit
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>*	Yellow flag iris
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera maackii</i>*	Amur honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>*	Morrow honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>*	Tartarian honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera x bella</i>*	Bell honeysuckle
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>*	Purple loosestrife
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>*	Eurasian watermilfoil
<i>Najas minor</i>	European naiad
<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	Yellow floating heart
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i> *	Wild parsnip
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>*	Reed canary grass

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Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Phragmites australis</i>*	Common reed
<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	Curly leaf pondweed
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>*	Common buckthorn
<i>Rhamnus frangula</i>*	Glossy buckthorn
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> * ¹	Black locust
<i>Rosa multiflora</i> *	Multiflora rose
<i>Trapa natans</i>*	Water chestnut
<i>Vincetoxicum nigrum</i>	Black swallow-wort

Invasive insects; See <http://www.vtinvasives.org/invaders/images>

<i>Adelges tsugae</i> *	Hemlock Woolly Adelgid
<i>Agrilus planipennis</i> ²	Emerald Ash Borer
Anoplophora glabripennis	Asian Longhorned Beetle
Geosmithia morbid asp. Nov	Thousand Cankers Disease
Fiorina externa Ferris	Elongate Hemlock Scale
Sirex noctilio	Sirex Woodwasp

Aquatic invasive species in Vermont. Source: Watershed Management Division, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation:

http://www.vtwaterquality.org/lakes/htm/ans/lp_ans-index.htm

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Dreissena polymorpha</i>	Zebra mussel
<i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i>	Alewife
<i>Orconectes rusticus</i>	Rusty crayfish
<i>Didymosphenia geminata</i>	Didymo

What Has Been Done in the Region:

The Bennington County Conservation District (BCCD) is taking a lead role in developing a plan for addressing invasive species within the Batten Kill watershed. This effort would also entail an agreement between multiple organizations, including the U.S. Forest Service, The Bennington County Conservation District, the Bennington County Regional Commission, the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and

¹ Invasive in certain natural communities, but otherwise not a problem

² In Rensselaer County, NY

Recreation and likely other organizations. The intent is to create a long-term partnership to address invasive species in the watershed. Surveys have been completed along many Batten Kill reaches.

Information exists on the presence of invasives in plans developed by professional foresters for use value assessment, and we are trying to determine a way to go through the several hundred plans to create a GIS database of that information.

The Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation has been and continues to monitor for emerald ash borer by establishing traps in ash stands. The traps will be monitored by volunteers. VT DFPR has also been treating a hemlock stand in Pownal that is being threatened by the hemlock wooly adelgid using biological controls. The Nature Conservancy did have an extensive invasive species management program, and they are still working on those at Mt. Equinox. The One World Conservation Center is working on invasives control on their lands. Vermont Invasives supports volunteer forest pest detectors, and eleven towns in Bennington have such a volunteer. They also have best management practices for road maintenance that could be useful for road crews. The BCRC includes invasives, and the website (www.vtinvasives.org) provides links to extensive information on assessing and controlling invasive species. The BCRC works with municipalities to address invasive species in hazard mitigation plans.

VT ANR has various programs for aquatic invasive species, and this is an important issue for the Batten Kill and for the Walloomsac.

Plans for Future Action:

The BCRC will work with the BCCD to organize a region-wide meeting to share information on invasives management and control. Activities noted above will continue with opportunities for collaboration as discussed at the regional meeting. The BCRC will continue to work with all municipalities in the region to consider issues germane to invasives management and control in comprehensive and hazard mitigation plans. Workshops and other educational programs will be advertised through BCRC's regular outreach activities.