

## Invasive Plant Species Fact Sheet

### How can we prevent invasive plants?

- Learn to identify invasive species in your area.
- Plant native plants, and avoid using invasive non-native plants in your garden. List of suggested alternatives [here](#).
- Dispose of invasive plants carefully so they cannot re-sprout. Consider bagging up the discarded materials or even freezing the seeds so they are nonviable.
- You do not have to remove all of your existing invasive plants as long as you are aware of their potential to spread and you take steps to control and contain them.
- Remember to clean off your boots, clothes and equipment before and after traveling to new areas. Sometimes invasive species can be teeny tiny, and you won't even realize they are there.
- Next time you go camping, remember to use firewood from the local area (no more than a few miles out if possible) to ensure that no tiny non-native insects have the potential to spread to a new area.

### Key Terms:

- **Invasive species:** also called introduced species. Any non-native species that significantly modifies or disrupts the ecosystems it colonizes.
- **Biodiversity:** the variety of life found in an ecosystem. Without a good variety of plants, animals and micro-organisms the overall health of the ecosystem suffers.



# Deep Sea Learning with Georgia Aquarium



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Check off the Georgia invasive plant species that you see in your neighborhood:



**Kudzu**

*Pueraria montana*



**Monkey Grass**

*Liriope muscari*



**Japanese Knotweed**

*Fallopia japonica*



**English Ivy**

*Hedera helix*



**Chinese Privet**

*Ligustrum sinense*



**Tree-of-Heaven**

*Ailanthus altissima*



**Chinaberry**

*Melia azedarach*



**Climbing Fern**

*Lygodium japonicum*

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for more online resources to use at home!