

KEEP A LOOKOUT!

for *new* INVASIVE PLANTS in the Midwest!

Early detection and rapid response can prevent the spread of invasive plants.
Report sightings and find current distribution maps by visiting mipn.org/edrr



AMUR CORK TREE
Phellodendron amurense



BLACK SWALLOW-WORT
Cynanchum louiseae



CALLERY PEAR*
Pyrus calleryana



CHINESE YAM
Dioscorea oppositifolia



GIANT HOGWEED
Heracleum mantegazzianum



JAPANESE CHAFF FLOWER
Achyranthes japonica



JAPANESE HOP
Humulus japonicus



JAPANESE STILTGRASS
Microstegium vimineum



KUDZU
Pueraria montana



LESSER CELANDINE
Ficaria verna



MILE-A-MINUTE WEED
Persicaria perfoliata



PALE SWALLOW-WORT
Cynanchum rossicum



POISON HEMLOCK
Conium maculatum



PORCELAIN BERRY
Ampelopsis brevipedunculata



ROUND LEAF BITTERSWEET
Celastrus orbiculatus



WINEBERRY
Rubus phoenicolasius

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Visit mipn.org/edrr

Updated March 2023
See reverse side for species descriptions
*For callery pear please report escaped populations, not trees intentionally planted

New INVASIVE PLANTS in the Midwest



AMUR CORK TREE (*Phellodendron amurense*)

Tree with mature height of 35-45 ft. Short trunk with spreading branches. **Bark** thick and corky, inner bark bright yellow. **Leaves** opposite, 10-15 in. long, smell like turpentine when crushed. Compound leaves with 5-11 leaflets, elliptical, acute at the apex, 2.5-4.5 in. long. **Flowers** small, green borne in clusters. **Fruit** are drupes, 0.25-0.5 in. green, turn black when mature, and often overwinter. Primarily threatens forests, also grasslands and floodplains.

BLACK SWALLOW-WORT (*Cynanchum louiseae*)

Herbaceous, perennial vine reaches lengths of 3-8 ft. **Leaves** opposite, 2-5 in. long, toothless, narrowly to broadly oval with pointed tips, dark green and shiny. **Flowers** tiny, dark purple with 5-pointed, downy, triangular petals that are as long as they are wide. **Seed pods** milkweed-like, slender and tapered, 1.5-3 in. long. **Seed** on silky filaments. Threatens woodlands, forests, grasslands and savannas.

CALLERY PEAR (*Pyrus calleryana*)

Tree with mature height of 40-60 ft. Pyramidal to rounded crown shape, up to 30 ft. wide. **Leaves** are alternate, 1.5-3 in. long, oval shaped, glossy, leathery, medium to dark green, finely toothed and wavy along the edges. **Flowers** 0.5-0.75 in. with five white petals and purple anthers, unpleasant odor. **Fruit** 0.3-0.5 in., round with green to light brown skin and pale spots, often overwinter. Wild trees and seedlings often have large thorns. Cultivars include Bradford, Chanticleer, Cleveland Select and Aristocrat. Cultivars are self-sterile, but can cross pollinate and produce seed. Threatens forest edges, open and disturbed woodlands.

CHINESE YAM (*Dioscorea oppositifolia*)

Herbaceous, perennial vine twines clockwise, climbs to 15 ft. **Leaves** opposite (upper nodes may be alternate), reddish where leaf stem joins, leaf shape is variable, but often heart or fiddle-shaped with parallel veins that curve towards a pointed leaf tip. **Flowers** small, white, arranged in spikes, rare in Midwest populations. **Reproductive bulbils** are small potato-like tubers in leaf axils. Threatens streamsides, floodplains and ravines.

GIANT HOGWEED (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*)

Large, **perennial herb**, flowers once then dies. A single basal leaf grows the 1st year, then a larger rosette grows each year. In 4th or 5th year plant produces a 7-15 ft. tall flower stalk. **Leaves** 3-part compound, 1-4 ft. wide, deeply incised and pointed. **Flowers** white in multiple, broad-domed umbels up to 2.5 ft. in diameter. **Flower stalk** hollow with coarse hairs and reddish purple splotching. Threatens riparian corridors and woodland edges. **Caution! Plant sap causes severe phytophotodermatitis.**

JAPANESE CHAFF FLOWER (*Achyranthes japonica*)

Perennial herb grows up to 6 ft. tall. **Stems** of seedlings are reddish, larger plants have red nodes. **Leaves** opposite, simple, and smooth-edged with deeply incised leaf veins. **Flowers** in small spikes, lack petals, and have a bottle-brush appearance. **Fruits** lay flat against the spike with a pair of stiff bracts and remain on stalks during winter. Threatens wet forests and riparian areas.

JAPANESE HOP (*Humulus japonicus*)

Herbaceous, annual vine twines counter-clockwise. **Leaves** opposite, 2-5 in. long, toothed, and palmately divided, with 5-9 lobes. **Leaf stem** as long or longer than leaf length. **Leaves and stem** with hooked climbing hairs. **Flowers** mid to late summer (male and female flowers on separate plants). Threatens floodplains, wet forests, stream banks, and lakeshores.

JAPANESE STILTGRASS (*Microstegium vimineum*)

Annual, sprawling grass, 12-24 in. tall. Resembles miniature bamboo. **Leaves** wide, alternate, pale green, lance-shaped, 2-3 in. with pale silvery stripe of reflective hairs along midrib of upper surface. **Flower** spikes 1-3 in. long. Blooms late summer into early fall. Prolific seed production. Also spreads by rooting from stem nodes that touch the ground. Threatens river corridors, floodplains, and both upland and wetland forested areas.

KUDZU (*Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*)

Semi-woody, perennial vine climbs 30-100 ft. Up to 30 vines per plant. **Leaves** alternate and compound with 3 unlobed to deeply lobed leaflets, hairy beneath and up to 4 in. wide. **Flowers** purple, pea-like and grow from leaf axils in long hanging clusters; blooming in late summer. **Seed pods** brown, flat, and hairy. Grows in a variety of conditions, but prefers sunny, open areas. Threatens forest edges, woodlands and savannas.

LESSER CELANDINE (*Ficaria verna*)

Perennial herb. Spring emergent that forms a dense carpet. **Leaves** in rosette, shiny, dark green, kidney to heart-shaped. **Flower** 1 in. wide, 8-12 petals, bright yellow with slightly darker center on single stalk above leaves. **Roots** with finger-like tubers, cream-colored bulblets in stem axils. **Fruit** hairy, seeds held in round heads. Threatens floodplain forests, open woodlands, and meadows.

MILE-A-MINUTE WEED (*Persicaria perfoliata*)

Annual, herbaceous vine that can grow 6 in. per day during the peak of the growing season, reaching 20-30 ft. in length. **Stem** with hooked barbs; circular, cup-shaped, leafy structures around the stem at nodes. **Leaves** alternate, shaped like an equilateral triangle with barbs on undersides, leaf bases arrow to heart-shaped. **Flowers** small, white and inconspicuous. **Fruit** fleshy, blue, pea-sized. Threatens woodland edges, wetlands and riparian corridors.

PALE SWALLOW-WORT (*Cynanchum rossicum*)

Herbaceous, perennial vine twines 3-6 ft. high. **Leaves** opposite (similar to black swallow-wort). **Flowers** maroon to pale pink with 5 pointed, hairless, triangular petals that are twice as long as wide. **Seed pods** milkweed-like (similar to black swallow-wort). **Seed** on silky filaments. Threatens woodlands, forests grasslands and savannas.

POISON HEMLOCK (*Conium maculatum*)

Biennial herb 3-8 ft. tall. **Stem** stout, hollow, ridged, and purple-spotted. **Leaves** are 3-4 times pinnately compound, clasping the stem at swollen nodes. **Flowers** tiny, white, in compound umbels up to 5 in. in diameter. **Fruits** ridged and flattened, each fruit holds two seeds. Threatens grasslands, pastures, and riparian corridors. **Caution! All parts of plant are toxic to mammals.**

PORCELAIN BERRY (*Ampelopsis brevipedunculata*)

Perennial, woody vine that can reach 25 ft. in length. Stem **pith** is white and continuous across nodes. **Bark** does not peel. **Leaves** alternate with 3-5 lobes that can vary from shallow to deeply dissected, coarse teeth on edges, hairs along veins on the underside of leaf. **Flowers** greenish-white, occur opposite the leaves. **Fruit** colorful, lavender to green or bright blue. Native grape, *Vitis riparia*, has brown pith and peeling bark. Threatens forest edges, wet woodlands, and streambanks.

ROUNDLEAF BITTERSWEET (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)

Woody, perennial vine. **Leaves** alternate, toothed, shape variable; teardrop-shaped to round with a pointed tip. **Flowers** small and greenish-yellow; male and female flowers on separate plants. Blooms in early summer, fruits in fall. **Fruit** greenish to yellow, grow in clusters of 3-7 along the stem at leaf axils. When mature, fruit splits open to reveal a bright red inner-fruit. Fruit can persist through the winter. Vines can root where they touch the ground. Threatens woodlands, forests, savannas and floodplains. **Formerly known as Oriental Bittersweet.**

WINEBERRY (*Rubus phoenicolasius*)

Deciduous, perennial shrub. **Stems** upright, reaching 9 ft. tall with glandular red hairs and small spines. **Leaves** divided into 3 sharply toothed leaflets with dense silvery-white hairs on the underside. **Flowers** small with white petals and hairy sepals arranged in clusters. **Fruit** bright red and raspberry-like. Threatens forests, savannas, prairies, wetland edges, and open woodlands.

For control and management of these species, please visit the following links:

mipn.org/control or invasive.org/control