



Help DeKalb County Parks, “Take it Off, Take it all Off”

strip

Strategically Tracking & Removing Invasive Plants

# Georgia Exotic Pest Plant Council

## **Invasive Plant Definition**

“any species, including its seeds, spores or other biological material capable of propagating that species, that is not native to that ecosystem; and whose introduction does or is likely to cause environmental harm. Political boundaries are not used when determining a species nativity. Instead a species is defined as being exotic when it is not native to a particular ecosystem, making it possible to have a species that is native to parts of Georgia, but considered invasive in others.”

# Chinese Privet

Chinese privet is a semi-evergreen shrub or small tree that grows to 20 ft. (6.1 m) in height. Trunks usually occur as multiple stems with many long, leafy branches. Leaves are opposite, oval, pubescent on the underside of the midvein and less than 2 in. (5 cm) long. Flowering occurs in late spring, when small, white flowers develop at the end of branches in 2-3 in. (5-7.6 cm) long clusters. Fruit are oval, fleshy, less than 0.5 in. (1.3 cm) long, ripen to a dark purple to black color and persist into winter. Several privet species occur and they are often hard to distinguish. Chinese privet commonly forms dense thickets in fields or in the understory of forests. It shades and out-competes many species and, once established, is very difficult to remove. Chinese privet was introduced into the United States in the early 1852 as an ornamental.



# Chinese Privet



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# English Ivy

- English ivy is an evergreen vine that can grow to 100 ft. (30.5 m) in length. Leaves are dark-green and waxy with palmate veins. Leaf shape is very variable, but commonly occurs as a 3-5 lobed leaf with a heart-shaped base. Fruits are black and fleshy. English ivy can spread by runners.. It can grow both along the ground, where it can displace native understory species, and in the tree canopy, often covering branches and slowly killing trees. English ivy is native to Europe and was introduced into North America by early settlers for ornamental purposes.



# English Ivy



# Chinese Wisteria

- Chinese wisteria is a deciduous woody vine capable of growing to a height of 40 ft. (12.2 m). Stems can be up to 10 in. (25.4 cm) in diameter with smooth, gray-brown bark. Alternate, pinnately compound (7-13 leaflets) leaves are tapered at the tip with wavy edges. Leaflets are approximately 3 in. (7.6 cm) in length. Lavender, purple or white flowers are fragrant,. Invasions often occur around previous plantings. A native of China, it was first introduced into the United States in 1816 for ornamental purposes.



# Chinese Wisteria



# Japanese Honeysuckle

- is an evergreen to semi-evergreen vine that can be found either trailing or climbing to over 80 ft. (24 m) in length. Leaves are opposite, sessile, pubescent, oval and 1 to 2.5 in. (2.5-6.4 cm) long. Flowering occurs from April to July, when showy, fragrant, tubular, A native of eastern Asia, it was first introduced into North America in 1806 in Long Island, NY. Japanese honeysuckle has been planted widely throughout the United States as an ornamental, for erosion control, and for wildlife habitat.



# Japanese Honeysuckle



# Elaeagnus

- Autumn olive, Elaeagnus, Oleaster, Japanese Silverberry
- Native To: Asia, Introduced US 1830
- Means of Introduction: Ornamental; cultivated for wildlife habitat and erosion control



# Elaeagnus



# Mohonia

Mahonia typically have large, pinnate leaves 10-50 cm long with 5-15 leaflets, Evergreen shrubs  
Native to Asia, the Himalayas, North America and Central America

The genus name *Mahonia* honors the Philadelphia horticulturist [Bernard McMahon](#) who introduced the plant from materials collected by the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The type species of the genus is

The species name *aquifolium* attributes the leaf to be holly like and means wet foliage. The berries are edible, and rich in vitamin C, though with a very sharp flavor.



# Mahonia



# Kudzu

Kudzu is a climbing, deciduous vine capable of reaching lengths of over 100 ft. (30.5 m). Leaves are alternate, compound (with three, usually lobed, leaflets), hairy and up to 5.4 in. (15 cm) long. Flowering occurs in midsummer, when 0.5 in. (1.3 cm) long, purple, fragrant flowers hang, in clusters, in the axils of the leaves. Fruit are brown, hairy, flat, 3 in. (7.6 cm) long, 0.3 in. (0.8 cm) wide seed pods. Kudzu often grows over, smothers and kills all other vegetation, including trees. Kudzu is native to Asia and was first introduced into the United States in to control erosion.



# Kudzu



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# Poison Ivy

The leaves are ternate with three almond-shaped leaflets. The berries (actually drupes) are a grayish-white color and are a favorite winter food of some birds. This is the basis of mnemonics such as "Leaves of three, let it be; leaves of four, eat some more"; variants include "... hairy vine, no friend of mine",<sup>1</sup> "... berries white, run in fright" and "... berries white, danger in sight".



# Poison Ivy



# References

[www.uga.edu](http://www.uga.edu)

[www.gaeppc.org/list.cfm](http://www.gaeppc.org/list.cfm)

<http://en.wikipedia.org>

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