

Common Invasive Terrestrial Plants

[Japanese knotweed](#) (*Polygonum cuspidatum*, or *Falliopia japonica* or *Reynoutria japonica*, it's been known by any and all of those names)

[Wild parsnip](#) (*Pastinaca sativa*) BEWARE!

[Purple loosestrife](#) (*Lythrum salicaria*)

[Yellow iris](#) (*Iris pseudacoris*) Increasingly common, especially along stream banks and wetland areas.

[Honeysuckles](#) (*Lonicera spp.*) Note that invasive honeysuckles have hollow stems.

Tree-of-Heaven, *Ailanthus* (*Ailanthus altissima*) This species has uneven distribution across the watershed, being very uncommon in some areas (Otsego County) and very common in others, particularly around urban areas. Aside from direct impacts to the environment, *Ailanthus* is a preferred host for the spotted lanternfly, a highly invasive insect with a potentially huge impact on agriculture and forest products.

[Norway maple](#) (*Acer platanoides*) Very common invasive, especially in urban areas and parks

[Multiflora rose](#) (*Rosa multiflora*) Planted widely by state and local agencies as a 'living hedge' for many years, now a major pest.

[Spotted knapweed](#) (*Centaurea maculosa*) Likely much more common than we think

[Canada thistle](#) (*Cirsium arvense*) Like spotted knapweed, probably more common than what shows up on the distribution lists. Might also be hard to distinguish from other thistles.

Sources:

nyis.info

Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (catskillinvasives.org)

Finger Lakes PRISM (fingerlakesinvasives.org)

iMapInvasives (imapinvasives.org)