



## **Tree/Plant Species To Avoid Planting**

The Tree Advisory Board, in the spirit of sustainability and in order to remediate damage done by traditional landscaping practices, has compiled a list of tree/shrub/plant species that we recommend not planting. The hope is that this list, along with the expertise of the TAB and its partners, can educate the community about ecologically sustainable practices and plantings that are habitat-friendly choices.

In a world where we are seeing the loss of numerous species that were once abundant, and keystone species of flora and fauna are becoming endangered, it is important for each of us to understand our part in using our own spaces to create habitat where native ecosystems can exist.

The following list is compiled using species on current prohibited lists of municipalities, watch/prohibited lists of parklands, and data-based information on species demonstrated, or potentially able to naturalize and/or spread from plantings. This list is not exhaustive, and most likely may omit a number of species that are problematic. For more information, please contact the Tree Advisory Board.

### *Primary Tree Species to be avoided:*

- [Acer campestre – Hedge Maple\\*](#)
- [Acer buergerianum – Trident Maple\\*](#)
- [Acer negundo – Box elder\\*](#)
- [Acer ginnala – Amur Maple\\*](#)
- [Acer platanoides – Norway maple \(all forms, including King Crimson\)\\*](#)
- [Acer pseudoplatanus – Planetree/Sycamore Maple\\*](#)
- [Acer tataricum – Tartarian Maple\\*](#)
- [Aesculus hippocastanum - Horsechestnut](#)
- [Ailanthus altissima – Tree of Heaven](#)
- [Albizia julibrissin – Mimosa/Silk Tree](#)
- [Alnus glutinosa – European Black Alder](#)
- [Broussonetia papyrifera – Paper Mulberry](#)
- [Chionanthus retusus - Chinese fringetree](#)
- [Elaeagnus angustifolia – Russian Olive](#)
- [Elaeagnus umbellate – Autumn Olive](#)
- [Eucommia ulmoides - Hardy Rubber Tree](#)
- [Koelreuteria paniculate – Golden Rain Tree](#)
- [Morus alba – White Mulberry](#)
- [Paulownia tomentosa – Empress Tree](#)
- [Phellodendron amurense – Amur Corktree](#)
- [Phellodendron japonica – Japanese Corktree](#)
- [Populus alba – White Poplar](#)
- [Pyrus calleryana – Callery Pear \(including Bradford\)](#)
- [Quercus acutissima – Sawtooth Oak\\*](#)
- [Quercus dentata – Korean Oak\\*](#)
- [Quercus Robur – English Oak\\*](#)

[Rhamnus cathartica – Common Buckthorn](#)  
[Rhamnus frangula – Glossy Buckthorn](#)  
[Salix alba – White Willow](#)  
[Salix fragilis – Crack Willow](#)  
[Styphnolobium japonicum – Pagoda Tree](#)  
[Styrax japonicus – Japanese Snowbell](#)  
[Syringa reticulata – Japanese Tree Lilac \(Ivory Silk\)](#)  
[Tetradium daniellii – Korean Evodia](#)  
[Ulmus parvifolia – Chinese Elm](#)  
[Ulmus pumila – Siberian Elm](#)  
[Zelkova serrata - Japanese zelkova](#)

\*The planting of non-native maples and oaks should be avoided in general due to their capacity to abundantly reproduce and escape; there are numerous native maple and oak alternatives

*Primary Shrub Species to be avoided:*

[Berberis thunbergia - Japanese Barberry](#)  
[Berberis vulgaris - European Barberry](#)  
[Buddleja davidii – Butterfly Bush](#)  
[Cotoneaster multiflorus - Many-flowered cotoneaster](#)  
[Cotoneaster acutifolia – Peking cotoneaster](#)  
[Euonymus alatus – Burning bush](#)  
[Euonymus europeaus - European spindletree](#)  
[Lespedeza bicolor - Shrub lespedeza](#)  
[Ligustrum obtusifolium - Border privet/Common privet](#)  
[L. vulgare](#)  
[L. amurense](#)  
[L. japonicum](#)  
[L. ovalifolium](#)  
[L. sinense](#)  
[Lonicera x bella - Bell's honeysuckle](#)  
[Lonicera maackii - Amur honeysuckle](#)  
[Lonicera morrowii - Morrow's honeysuckle](#)  
[Lonicera tatarica - Tartarian honeysuckle](#)  
*\*include any non-native Lonicera shrub*  
[Phyllostachys, Pleioblastus, Pseudosasa, and Bambusa - Bamboo](#)  
[Rhodotypos scandens - Jetbead](#)  
[Rosa multiflora - Multiflora rose](#)  
[Rubus phoenicolasius - Wineberry](#)  
[Spiraea japonica - Japanese meadowsweet](#)  
[Viburnum lantana – Wayfaring-Tree](#)  
[Viburnum opulus – European cranberry bush viburnum](#)

*Please avoid these bamboo species as well:*

[Bambusa vulgaris – Common Bamboo](#)  
[Phyllostachys aurea – Golden Bamboo](#)  
[Phyllostachys aureosulcata – Yellow Grove Bamboo](#)  
[Phyllostachys bissetii – Bissetii](#)  
[Phyllostachys rubromarginata – Red Margin Bamboo](#)  
[Pseudosasa japonica – Arrow Bamboo](#)

In addition to species in the genera: *Sasa* and *Pleioblastus*

If a bamboo is insisted upon, giant reed (*Arundinaria gigantea*) is a good native alternative to consider