

TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD

Conservation Commission Flood and Erosion Control Board

Ridgefield Conservation Commission

Invasives Committee

The Invasives Committee of the Conservation Commission was formed to help community members identify and eradicate invasive plants on their properties and on town open spaces.

The invasive plants of particular concern, all of which are found in Ridgefield, are:

- Japanese Barberry (Berberis thunbergii) which harbors ticks
- Oriental Bittersweet (Celastrus orbiculatus) whose vines choke trees
- Phragmites (*Phragmites australis*) a wetland grass that diminishes the diversity of water bodies
- Mile-a-Minute vine (Persicaria perfoliata) which is a very aggressive grower
- Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) which is a wetland plant
- Winged euonymus, also commonly known as Burning bush (Euonymus alatus) which decreases diversity in our woodlands
- Multiflora rose (Multiflora rose)
- Japanese stilt grass (*Microstegium vimineum*)
- Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)

The committee is also on the lookout for two destructive non-native beetles:

- Asian longhorned beetle (Anoplophora glabripennis)
- Emerald Ash Borer (Agrilus planipennis)

We welcome questions from the public about any of these invasive plants and beetles, and any others you may find on your property. Please contact us at 203-431-2713 or Conservation@ridgefieldct.org