

NY-NJ Trail Conference Invasives Strike Force Phase 1 Species QUICK ID GUIDE

Name	Code	Look for...	MY ID GUIDE
TREES			
Norway maple (<i>Acer platanoides</i>)	ACPL	Evenly ridged dark bark; white sap from leaf petioles; broad angle in winged fruit; dense shade & large leaves with 'U'-shaped sinuses between lobes. Leaf margins not toothed, just lobes with pointed tips. Opposite branching.	
Tree-of-heaven (<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>)	AIAL	Long compound leaves with long pointed leaflets that have only a couple of lower lobes (not teeth); notable unpleasant odor; smooth grey bark; dense flower or winged fruit cluster at ends of branches. Pith looks like peanut butter.	
Autumn olive (<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>)	ELUM	Small tree or large shrub. Simple leaves. Silvery scales on leaves, twigs and fruit. Fragrant cream-colored flowers May-June. Fruit is red berry. (Russian olive fruit is yellow)	
SHRUBS			
Japanese barberry (<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>)	BETH	Small straight sharp thorns at each leaf-base. Dense clusters of small spoon-shaped leaves with narrow base. Bent-over stems. In fall, dangling small red oblong berries. Yellow root.	
Burning bush (<i>Euonymus alatus</i>)	EUAL	Opposite leaves; corky 'wings' along the stems. The 2 leaves on the ends of branches look like rabbit ears. In fall, bright red leaf color.	
Multiflora rose (<i>Rosa multiflora</i>)	ROMU	Hooked thorns. Compound leaves are alternate; leaflets of the leaf are opposite; leaflets are small with serrated margin. Look for stipules – leaf-like appendage at leaf-base – broad and fringed;	
Bush honeysuckles (<i>Lonicera spp.</i>)	LONI	Opposite branching. Simple oval leaves, opposite. Very fragrant flowers in May-June. Flowers & fruits occur in pairs along the leaf axils. Some species slightly fuzzy leaves and twigs. Pith hollow. Compare to native blackhaw viburnum, and non-native privet.	

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Wineberry (<i>Rubus phoenocolasius</i>)	RUPH	Arching stems have prominent reddish-purple dense hairs; Looks thorny, but the 'prickles' are mostly sticky hairs. 3-parted compound leaves -- fuzzy, green above & white below.	
VINES			
Oriental Bittersweet (<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>)	CEOR	Very common climbing vine; rounded shiny leaves with a pointed tip; twining around its support (no tendrils), clusters of flowers or fruits at leaf-bases. Orange root.	
Japanese honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera japonica</i>)	LOJA	Opposite leaves; small, widely-spaced simple leaves on a thin woody stem; commonly running along the ground (rarely climbing in the forest except in light gaps), rarely in flower. Native species very unlikely to be seen.	
HERB			
Japanese knotweed (<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>)	POCU	Tall herb with a thick, jointed, bamboo-like stem. Large simple leaves that taper at the tip but are relatively straight across at the base. Usually grows in thick patches.	
Purple loosestrife (<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>)	LYSA	Purple flowers with 6 petals on long spikes at the top of the plant. Leaves opposite, untoothed, attached directly to stem, long & pointed at tip but not narrowed at base. Stem angled. Generally in wet, sunny habitat.	
Garlic mustard (<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>)	ALPE	1 st yr low-growing rosette of roundish, heart-shaped leaves with coarse blunt teeth. 2 nd -year: tall stem with round to triangular, coarsely-toothed leaves with heart-shaped bases; cluster of small white flowers or long thin pods at the top. Smells garlicky.	
GRASS			
Japanese stilt-grass (<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>)	MIVI	A light green grass with a silver stripe down the center of the blade. The blades are usually less than 3" long but they are fairly wide for a grass and tapered at both ends. Stems often lie horizontally. Shallow root.	