

Invasive Plant Species in Chichester, NH

Invasive plant species are plants that are not native to New Hampshire but thrive here. Many have been introduced accidentally. Some, such as purple loosestrife and Japanese barberry, were introduced as garden plants and for landscaping use. Invasive species are common in many areas of New Hampshire, including many public and private lands in Chichester. Eradicating all the invasive plant species in Carpenter Park and on town conservation land is a task that we cannot achieve with the resources available. However, the Chichester Conservation Commission has adopted the following goals to manage invasive species.

Autumn Olive



1. Protect important town conservation lands from the introduction and spread of invasive plant species.
2. Promote awareness among town residents on methods to control invasive plant species.

What Can We Do About Invasive Plant Species?

Invasive plant species are a major threat to the natural communities of New Hampshire. Many invasive species are already widespread and common in New Hampshire, but there is still much that individuals can do to control invasive species and prevent their spread to new areas. Action by individuals is often the key to preventing the introduction of invasive species into areas where they are not already present.



This photo shows a patch of ground on the edge of Marsh Pond in the Madeline Sanborn Conservation Area. The large grass-like plant is an invasive known as phragmites (frag-myt'-eez). Members of the CCC volunteered to chop much of this patch down by hand and then apply a physical barrier to control the growth of new shoots. Phragmites has the potential to push out indigenous species, such as cattails. Over time, the plants and animals that inhabit the edge of Marsh Pond will change significantly if we allow the phragmites to spread.

Phragmites Control on Marsh Pond

Want more information?

NH Fish and Game: www.wildnh.com/marine/invasives.html

Mass Audubon Society: www.massaudubon.org/Invasive_Species/index.php