





Dan O'Keefe, Michigan Sea Grant



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# MEET THE INVADERS!

## INVASIVE CARP

- Fish farm escapee
- Competes with native fish for food
- Watch out, boaters - these fish jump!





Melody Keena, USDA FS, Bugwood.org

## ASIAN LONG-HORNED BEETLE

- Stowaway on cargo ship pallets
- Hitchhiker on lumber and firewood
- Adults can fly up to 400 miles in search of a new tree



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## **BROWN TREE SNAKE**

- Stowaway on cargo ships & airplanes
- Preys on native birds, reptiles, & bats
- Climbs utility poles and causes electrical power outages







Susan Jewell, USFWS

## BURMESE PYTHON

- Escaped or released overgrown pets
- Threatens mammals, birds, and other reptiles
- One of the world's largest snakes--up to 20 feet long!



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Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

## COMMON BUCKTHORN

- Escaped garden plant
- Crowds out native plants
- Relies on birds and wildlife to spread seeds



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Debbie Miller, USDA FS, Bugwood.org

## EMERALD ASH BORER

- Hitchhikes on firewood and wood chips
- Kills every ash tree they encounter
- Eats its way through sapwood of trees



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## FERAL PIG

- Intentionally released or escaped fugitive from farms
- Roam in aggressive packs
- Destroys crops & lawns through digging







Robert Vidéki, *Doronicum Kft.*, [Bugwood.org](http://Bugwood.org)

## GIANT SALVINIA

- Escaped aquarium and water garden plant
- Invades lakes and ponds
- Populations can double in size in 9 days!



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Eric Vance, U.S. EPA



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## HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM

- Algae that grow out of control and choke aquatic ecosystems
- Turns waters red, brown, blue, or green
- Pets that swim in and drink from the toxic algae-contaminated water can become sick and die





Jon Sullivan

## HYDRILLA

- Runaway aquarium plant
- Pieces of the plant hitchhike on boat motors and trailers
- Grows an inch a day!



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## JAPANESE HONEYSUCKLE

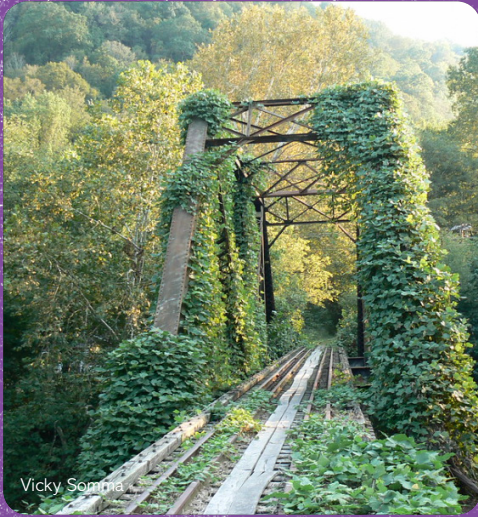
- Runaway garden plant
- Smothers native plants
- Can grow up to 80 feet long!



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Vicky Somma



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## KUDZU

- Runaway garden plant
- Grows to 100 feet long
- Nicknamed the “vine that ate the South”



Dan & Evn Dzurisin



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## NUTRIA

- Escaped from fur farms
- Destroys earthen levees, dams, and wetlands by burrowing
- Feeds heartily on rice and sugarcane crops





Caleb Siemmons, NEON, Bugwood.org



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## PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE

- Escaped from gardens
- Forms dense stands that keep native plants and wildlife out
- One plant produces 2 to 3 million seeds a year!



Jeff Schardt

## WATER HYACINTH

- Escaped water garden plant
- Blocks sunlight that native plants need
- Overgrows in lakes and waterways and stops boat traffic



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Jerzy Opiola

## **SALT CEDAR / TAMARISK**

- Escaped garden plant
- Tremendous appetite for water
- Rides the wind and water to new ground



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Joanna Gilkeson, USFWS

## SEA LAMPREY

- Invasive fish from North Atlantic Ocean
- Stalks the Great Lakes
- Sucks blood from other fish



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Stephen Ausmus, USDA

## SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

- Hitchhikes on everything that moves including the family car
- Feeds on sap, particularly from grape vines, fruit trees, and hardwoods
- Excretes partially digested sap that attracts mold



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Laura Parson, University of Idaho, PSES, Bugwood.org

## YELLOW STAR THISTLE

- Hitchhiked in crop seed shipments
- Prevents recreational use, like walking & hiking, & chokes our native plants
- Fatally toxic to horses



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U.S. Geological Survey

## ZEBRA MUSSEL

- Stowaway in ballast water of ships
- Forms big colonies that clog pipes, encrust dams, & smother native mussels
- Adheres to boats, buoys, and everything else!



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Caleb Slemmons, National Ecological Observatory Network

## PHRAGMITES

- Escaped from ballast material
- Negatively impacts wetland ecosystems
- Difficult to distinguish from the native reeds



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Eric Engbretson, US Fish and Wildlife Service



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## ROUND GOBY FISH

- Escaped from Eurasian cargo ships released into the Great Lakes
- Eats the eggs of native fish
- Bottom-feeding fish that lives in fresh or brackish water

