



Barry • Calhoun • Kalamazoo  
**BCK CISMA**  
Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area  
BARRYCD.ORG/BCK

# Michigan Invasive Species Watch List

## TERRESTRIAL PLANTS

### Cinnamon Vine *Dioscorea polystachya*



- Pointed, heart-shaped leaves with indented sides.
- Air tubers present from June to September, which resemble small potatoes.
- Small, white or greenish-yellow flowers that smell of cinnamon.
- Can grow to 16 feet in height and engulf surrounding vegetation.

**Impacts:** Lowers biodiversity, damage to small trees and shrubs.

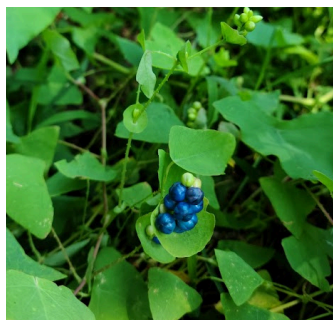
### Purple Jewelweed *Impatiens glandulifera*



- An annual plant found in wetlands, forests, gardens, yards, and roadsides.
- Grows between 3-6 feet tall.
- Purple/red stems that are smooth and hollow with 5-10 flowers.
- Fruit capsules explode when ripe and touched.

**Impacts:** Outcompetes native flowers (pollinators) and can alter flow (erosion/flooding) in waterways.

### Mile-A-Minute-Weed *Persicaria perfoliata*



- Fast-growing annual vine with equilateral triangles leaves and circular stipules.
- Narrow, delicate, green or red stems with barbs.
- Clusters of pea-sized, blue fruit first appear in July.
- Prefers open and disturbed areas with preference for wetter soil and access to sunlight.

**Impacts:** Agricultural fields, displaces pollinators, edge habitats.

### Kudzu *Peararia montana* var. *lobata*



- A single plant can have 30+ vines each growing 30-100 feet up into the canopy.
- Six-foot long roots can weigh up to 400 pounds.
- Alternate, compound leaves.
- Spire of purple - red flowers in late summer months.
- Hairy pea-pod fruit.

**Impacts:** Engulfs everything: buildings, habitat, agricultural fields, etc.

### Stiltgrass *Microstegium vimineum*



- Delicate, low-growing, annual grass that can re-root at nodes.
- Short (3-8 cm) alternate leaves are slender pale-green with shiny central vein.
- Very adaptable but prefers forested floodplains and in deep shade to full sunlight.
- Produces 100 to 1,000 seeds per plant.

**Impacts:** Outcompetes native flowers (pollinators), and can alter flow (erosion/flooding) in waterways.

### Chaff Flower *Achyranthes japonica*



- Perennial plant that grows three to six feet high.
- Stem at ground is red, even in seedlings.
- Opposite, smooth-edged leaves.
- Flowers lack petals is a green, bottle-brush-like spikes.
- Seeds readily attach to fabrics and hair.

**Impacts:** Its tall dense growth outcompete native flowers, overfills ditches and can infiltrate croplands.

### Lesser Celandine *Ficaria verna*



- Low-growing, spreading perennial plant found in floodplains in early spring with the entire plant disappearing by June.
- Small, one-inch wide bright yellow flowers with 8-12 petals.
- Shiny, dark green leaves heart-shaped and grow from a central rosette.

**Impacts:** Outcompetes native flowers in the spring (pollinators), and leaves understory barren in summer (erosion/flooding).

### Calligraphy Sedge *Carex kobomugi*



- Perennial sedge that grows to about one foot tall.
- Triangular stem with club-shaped flowering heads.
- Small ridges along the edges of leaves; making it feel serrated.

**Impacts:** Can out-compete native dune grasses and may cause dunes to become vulnerable to erosion and wind blowouts.





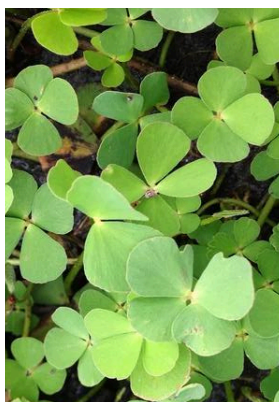
## AQUATIC PLANTS



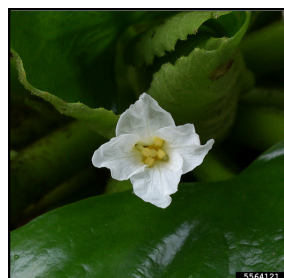
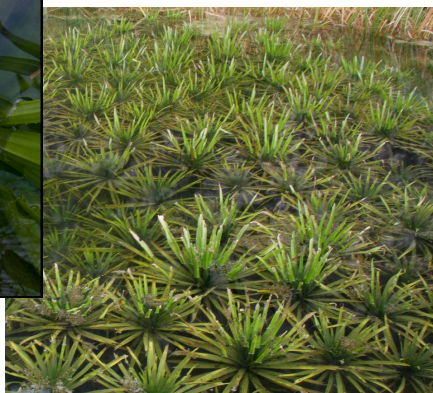
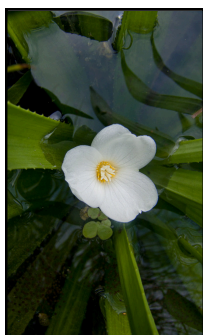
**Parrot Feather\***  
*Myriophyllum aquaticum*

- Leathery leaves that grow in whorls of 4-6
  - Bright green, upper stem can emerge up to one foot above the water, while submerged leaves and stems may be tinted reddish
- Small, white flowers along the stem above the water line.
  - Prefers slow-moving freshwater habitats with high nutrient and light levels.
  - Spreads via fragmentation.

**European Water Clover\***  
*Marsilea quadrifolia*



- Resembles a four-leaf clover.
- Anchors into sediment in shallow, slow-moving waters.
- Leaves are smooth and can be either submerged or emergent.
- Maximum height is approximately 8 inches.
- Green stems end in a single leaf.
- Spread via rhizome fragments, and spores.



**Water Chestnut**  
*Trapa natans*

- Green floating rosette of sharply-serrated leaves
- Small, white, four-petaled flowers.
- Hard “woody” nut surrounded by sharp, barbed spines.
- Prefers shallow, nutrient-rich lakes and rivers but can grow in mucky substrates.
- Spread by seeds “nut” or offset reproduction (i.e. form a baby rosette).



**Large Flower Water Primrose\***  
*Ludwigia grandifolia*



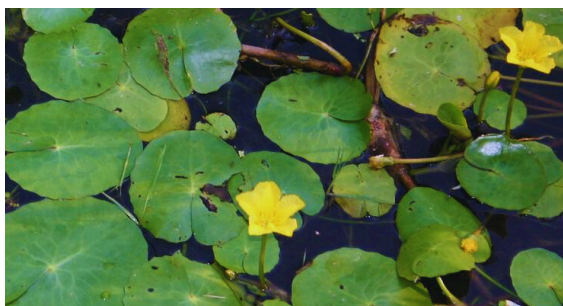
- Floating or emergent growth up to two feet and forms dense mats.
- Reddish stems and yellow flowers with 5 or 6 petals.
- Prefers shallower waters (up to 3 meters deep) and thrives in wetlands, and along shorelines.
- Spread by seed and fragmentation.

**Water Soldier**  
*Stratiotes aloides*

- A submerged, aquatic plant in the form of a large rosette that becomes buoyant during the summer.
- Leaves are bright green, sword-shaped, and have sharply-serrated edges, giving a similar appearance to aloe and spider plants.
- Showy, white flowers with 3 petals.
- A perennial plant and inhabits lakes, and rivers.
- Spreads via offset reproduction.



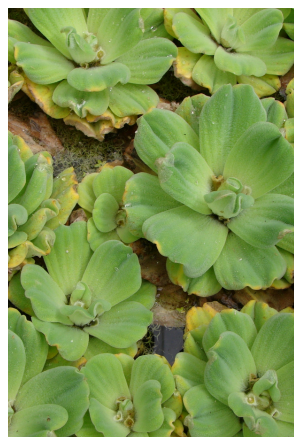
## AQUATIC PLANTS



### Yellow Floating Heart\*

*Nymphoides peltata*

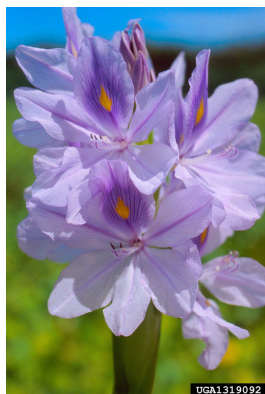
- A perennial plant that prefers slow-moving rivers, ponds, and lakes.
- Exhibits bright yellow flowers with 5 petals located above the surface of the water.
- Leaves are circular or heart-shaped with a wavy edge.
- Spread via seeds that are flat and oval-shaped.



### Water Lettuce\*

*Pistia stratiotes*

- Free-floating plant displaying a rosette of leaves that resembles an open head of lettuce.
- Leaves are thick, ridged, rounded at the end, light green, and have short, white hairs.
- Produces small, white to pale green flowers and has many feathery roots that dangle underneath the rosette.
- Prefers ponds, lakes, rivers, and streams.
- Spread via offset reproduction.



### Brazilian Elodea

*Egeria densa*

- A bushy aquatic plant with dense whorls of 4 bright green leaves.
- White, three-petaled blooms at the surface of the water.
- Can grow up to 18 feet.
- Leaves are smooth to the touch.
- Spreads via fragmentation.



### Water Hyacinth\*

*Eichhornia crassipes*

- Free-floating perennial with leathery leaves with distinctive air bladders.
- Can produce a stalk of lavender flowers, but not known to flower in Michigan.
- Intolerant to freezing temperatures.
- Spreads via offset reproduction.

### Hydrilla\*

*Hydrilla verticillata*

- Slender, green, saw-toothed leaves whorled in groups of 4-8 (5 being the most common).



- If leaf mid-vein may contain a row of spines and red in color.
- Grow up to 30 feet long and branch out considerably near the water's surface.
- Exhibits white, three-petaled flowers.
- Spreads via fragmentation.

**\*Found in Michigan**





# Michigan Invasive Species Watch List

## TREE PESTS

Please note reports made to [MISIN.msu.edu](http://MISIN.msu.edu) or on the MISIN app require at least one clear photo of the pest

### Asian Longhorned Beetle

*Anaplophora glabripennis*



- Legs and feet are blueish in color.
- Long banded antennae.
- Point where wings meet on “neck” is black, while native sawyer beetles have a white dot.
- Round exit holes about the size of a pencil.
- Trees may exhibit premature yellow leaves or leaves with chewed veins.

### Beech Leaf Disease

*Litylenchus crenatae*

- Visible bands of thickened, dark-green or brown tissue between leaf veins. (see picture)
- Leaves become distorted, puckered, or curled.
- Results in leaf loss as disease progresses.
- Leaf symptoms can best be observed by looking up unto the tree canopy.



### Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

*Adelges tsugae*



- Small, round, cottony-masses located on twigs at the bases of needles on the underside of hemlock tree branches.
- Infections are present year-round, but are most visible in the fall and winter.
- Only infects Eastern Hemlock trees, no pine or spruce trees, and prefers the more moderate winters closer to Lake Michigan.

### Thousand Cankers Disease

*Geosmithia morbida*

- Suspect twigs will have slightly sunken spots, often darker than the surrounding area.
- Center of cankers will display a small hole or dark spot.
- Tree crowns may exhibit signs of dieback.
- Spreads through a combination of native twig beetles and exotic fungi.



### Balsam Woolly Adelgid

*Adelges piceae*



- Targets true fir trees such as balsam, concolor and Fraser.
- Tiny, white, cottony-tufts on the trunk.
- Tree twigs display swollen tissues.
- Infested trees may exhibit “flagging,” multiple branches may turn brick-red.

### Mountain Pine Beetle

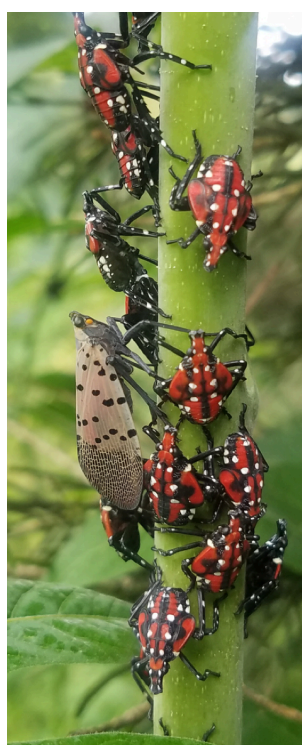
*Dendroctonus ponderosae*

- Many popcorn-like globs of brown, pink, or white pitch on tree trunk.
  - Check out picnic beetles for alternative pests.
- Yellow to red needles in tree crown visible in the summer time.
- Red frass, like sawdust, on crevices and around tree bases.
- Dieback is visible soon after infestation.



### Spotted Lanternfly

*Lycorma delicatula*



- Feeds predominately on Tree of Heaven and other hardwoods, but can impact vineyards, orchards and hops.
- Egg masses are a gray color, resemble old chewing gum, columns of eggs with a putty-like coating.
- Juveniles are wingless and beetle-like. They start out black with white spots, and develop red patches as they mature, about 1/4-1/2 inch long.
- Adults are about one inch long. Folded wings are translucent tan color with black spots. When wings are open a red hindwing and yellow/black body are visible.
- Short distance fliers and relies more on hopping.
- Adults are most visible August through October.