

Invasive Plant Criteria

Connecticut Invasive Plant List

In Connecticut, plants must demonstrate nine specific criteria to be included on the state's list of invasive and potentially invasive plants. The criteria are described in Section 22a-381b(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes:

In publishing and updating the list of invasive plants required under section 22a-381a, the Invasive Plants Council shall determine that a plant possesses the following characteristics before it is included on such list:

1. The plant is nonindigenous to the state;
2. the plant is naturalized or has the potential to become naturalized or occurring without the aid and benefit of cultivation in an area where the plant is nonindigenous;
3. under average conditions, the plant has the biological potential for rapid and widespread dispersion and establishment in the state or region within the state;
4. under average conditions, the plant has the biological potential for excessive dispersion over habitats of varying sizes that are similar or dissimilar to the site of the plant's introduction into the state;
5. under average conditions, the plant has the biological potential for existing in high numbers outside of habitats that are intensely managed;
6. the plant occurs widely in a region of the state or a particular habitat within the state;
7. the plant has numerous individuals within many populations;
8. the plant is able to out-compete other species in the same natural plant community;
- and -
9. the plant has the potential for rapid growth, high seed production and dissemination and establishment in natural plant communities.

Notes:

In order to be listed as **invasive**, a plant must meet **all 9 criteria**.

In order to be listed as **potentially invasive**, a plant must meet **criteria 1-5 and any one of criteria 6-9**.

For the most up-to-date information about the invasive species laws, please check the Connecticut General Statutes directly. For more information about invasive plants, visit www.cipwg.uconn.edu.