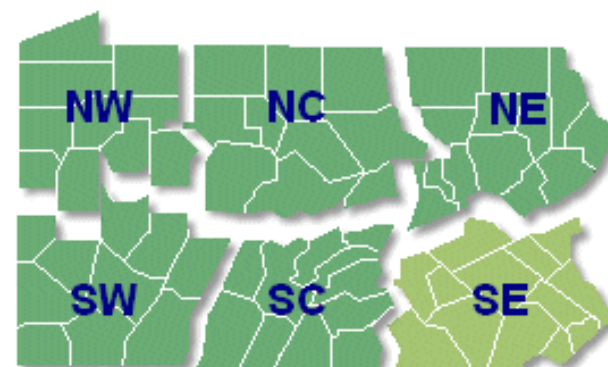




Serious Threats

The species below are the most serious threats or worst offenders to our native ecosystems. Many have been designed as "Noxious Weeds" by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and are also a major concern to our agricultural community.



Pennsylvania Regions

Six Pennsylvania Regions were used to show state distribution:

SE = Southeast **SC** = Southcentral **SW** = Southwest

NE = Northeast **NC** = Northcentral **NW** = Northwest

Freq. = Frequent Occ. = Occasional Rare

Scientific Name	Common Name	Plant Form	Pennsylvania Distribution
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<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic mustard	Flower	Freq: SE, SC, SW, NW; Occ: NE
Notes: Invasive in many states; spreading aggressively in woodlands by seed			
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Musk thistle	Flower	Freq: SE, SC, SW, NE, NC, NW
Notes: PA noxious Weed			
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada thistle	Flower	Freq: SE, SC, SW, NE, NC, NW
Notes: PA noxious Weed			
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Bull thistle	Flower	Freq: SE, SC, SW, NE, NC, NW
Notes: PA noxious Weed			
<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Jimsonweed	Flower	Freq: SE, SC, SW; Occ: NE
Notes: Sometimes cultivated; spreads by seed, PA Noxious Weed			
<i>Galega officinalis</i>	Goatsrue	Flower	Rare: SE

Forestry

Recreation

Forest Health

Rural & Community

Forestry

Private Forest

Landowners

Forest Fire

Protection

Education &

Information

State Forest

Management

Publications

Contacts

Notes: PA and Federal Noxious Weed, on location in SE PA

<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	Giant hogweed	Flower	Rare: NW
Notes: PA and Federal Noxious Weed, sap can cause burning blisters			
<i>Lythrum salicaria, L. virgatum</i>	Purple loosestife	Flower	Freq: SE; Occ: SC, SW, NE, NC, NW
Notes: Garden escape which has become invasive in many states; PA noxious Weed			
<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>	Japanese stilt grass	Grass	Freq: SE; Occ: SC
Notes: Annual grass; invasive in many states; spreading through woodlands by seed			
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common reed	Grass	Freq: SE; Occ: SC, SW, NE, NW
Notes: Native and introduced strains; wetland grass which can form huge colonies			
<i>Polygonum (Falopia) cuspidatum</i>	Japanese knotweed	Flower	Freq: SE; Occ: SC, SW, NE, NW; Rare: NC
Notes: Invasive in many states; difficult to control; spreads by roots and seeds			
<i>Sorghum bicolor ssp. drummondii</i>	Shattercane	Grass	Freq: SE; Occ: SC, NC
Notes: Grass; PA noxious Weed			
<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	Johnson grass	Grass	Freq: SE; Occ: SC, SW, NE, NW
Notes: Grass; PA noxious Weed; spreads by roots and seeds			
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	Autumn olive	Shrub	Freq: SE, SC; Occ: SW; Rare: NE, NW
Notes: Escaped from plantings and invasive in many states; rapidly spread by birds			
<i>Lonicera maackii</i>	Amur honeysuckle	Shrub	Occ: SE, SC, NW
Notes: Escaped from plantings; seeds spread by birds			
<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>	Morrow's honeysuckle	Shrub	Freq: SE, SC, SW; Occ: NE, NC, NW
Notes: Escaped from plantings and invasive in many states; seeds spread by birds			
<i>Lonicera standishii</i>	Standish honeysuckle	Shrub	Occ: SE
Notes: Escaped from plantings; seeds spread by birds			
<i>Lonicera tartarica</i>	Tartarian honeysuckle	Shrub	Freq: SE, SC, SW; Occ: NE, NW
Notes: Escaped from plantings; seeds spread by birds			
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	Multiflora rose	Shrub	Freq: SE, SC, SW; Occ: NE, NC, NW
Notes: Invasive in many states; seeds spread by birds; PA noxious Weed			
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway maple	Tree	Freq: SE; Occ: SE, SW
Notes: Commonly planted and escaped; invasive in many states; wind spreads prolific seeds			
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree-of-heaven	Tree	Freq: SE, SC; Occ: SW
Notes: Invasive in many states; wind spreads prolific seeds			
<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	Oriental bittersweet	Vine	Freq: SE, SC, SW; Rare: NE, NW
Notes: Escaped from cultivation and invasive in many states; spreading rapidly (by birds)			
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese honeysuckle	Vine	Freq: SE, SC; Occ: SW, NE
Notes: Invasive in many states			
<i>Polygonum perfoliatum</i>	Mile-a-minute vine	Vine	Freq: SE; Rare: SW
Notes: Range expanding; PA Noxious Weed			



Pueraria lobata

Kudzu

Vine

Freq: SE; Rare: SW

Notes: Invasive in many states; PA Noxious Weed

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