HERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU CAN DO

**LEARN** about which invasive plants are a problem in your area. If you see invasive plants in the wild, report them to https://www.nyimapinvasives.org.

**USE** native and non-invasive plants in your garden and landscaping. In addition to this brochure, you can find more suggestions at http://bit.ly/choosenativeplants.

**WATCH** out for invasive plant “hitchhikers” that might be growing in pots bought at a nursery or shared among friends. Inspect the soil for invasive animal species such as Asian jumping worms.

**CHECK** the ingredients of seed mixes and use only those that are free of invasive plants.

**CONTROL** invasive plants on your property using best management practices. Consult your local Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) for more information.

**LEAD** by example—ask your friends and neighbors to be plant wise.

**GET** involved with regional efforts to prevent and manage invasive species. See the back side of this brochure to learn more.
SOME PLANTS MAY LOOK BEAUTIFUL, but can have a devastating effect. Invasive plants are non-native, grow quickly, and reproduce rapidly. They cause major changes to the areas where they become established. They can harm the environment, economy, and even human health. Most of today’s worst invasive plants arrived as ornamental additions that escaped our gardens and landscapes. If we want to keep invasive plants out of our natural areas, we need to place non-invasive plants in our gardens.

The good news—and an outcome that few other areas can claim—is that within New York State, opportunities still exist to prevent invasive plants from becoming widespread. You can help.

**THE INVASIVE PLANT PROBLEM**

**PARTNERSHIPS FOR REGIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT (PRISMS)**

DEC works with eight PRISMs across the state to coordinate invasive species management, including:

- conducting control and eradication of infestations,
- offering education and support,
- organizing partner efforts, and
- recruiting and training volunteers.

**KNOW BEFORE YOU GROW**

**NEW YORK GARDENERS’ TIPSHEET**

**INVASIVE SPECIES** are the number one threat to native plants and animals on protected lands.

**INVASIVE PLANTS** are spreading over one million acres of wildlife habitat per year in the U.S.

**SCIENTISTS ESTIMATE** that invasive plants cost our economy $35 billion in damages and treatment each year.

**NEW YORK GARDENERS**

Photos from: Bugwood.org, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, and Cornell University eCommons.