

Marin Municipal Water District



Invasive Plant List

May 2010

Invasive plants can come from many pathways, intentional and unintentional, but they cost California at least \$82 million each year (www.cal-ipc.org/ip/research/pdf/Cost_of_Invasive_Weeds_in_California.pdf). MMWD spends approximately \$500,000 each year on fuel reduction and invasive plant control; over half of that is spent on broom control in fuelbreaks, because broom plants grow faster than native vegetation and require an increased mowing frequency.

By not planting weedy species, you can help preserve biodiversity on Mt. Tamalpais as well as prevent a pest from taking over your yard. The PlantRight campaign (www.plantright.org) contains additional information and suggested alternatives for landscaping plants shown to be invasive. The plants listed on the following pages are invasive in California (www.cal-ipc.org/ip/inventory/index.php) and most should not be planted. Please check the species you might be thinking of planting against these lists, broken out by plant type.

think blue. go green.



MARIN MUNICIPAL
WATER DISTRICT

marinwater.org

Trees and Shrubs

Many of these plants spread by birds eating the berries and dropping seeds in wildlands, or vegetatively through underground roots. Additional alternatives can be found at www.cal-ipc.org/landscaping/dpp/plantpage.php?region=state&type=Trees and www.cal-ipc.org/landscaping/dpp/plantpage.php?region=bayarea&type=Shrubs.

Not allowed by MMWD, as well as discouraged by Marin County:

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	silver wattle
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	black acacia, blackwood acacia
<i>Cotoneaster franchetii</i>	orange cotoneaster
<i>Cotoneaster lacteus</i>	Parney's cotoneaster
<i>Cotoneaster pannosus</i>	silverleaf cotoneaster
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Scotch broom
<i>Cytisus striatus</i>	Portuguese broom
<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	Tasmanian blue gum
<i>Retama monosperma</i>	bridal broom
<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>	Chinese tallowtree
<i>Sesbania punicea</i>	red sesbania, scarlet wisteria
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	gorse

These are also **not allowed** by MMWD, but due to their popularity we have provided alternatives:

Don't plant		Preferred alternatives	
<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	butterflybush	<i>Syringa</i> sp.	lilac
		<i>Ceanothus</i> sp.*	California lilac
<i>Olea europaea</i>	fruiting olive	<i>Olea europaea</i>	sterile olive varieties
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian-olive	<i>Leucadendron argenteum</i>	silver tree
		<i>Lyonothamnus floribundus</i> ssp. <i>asplenifolius</i>	Catalina ironwood
		<i>Metrosideros excelsa</i>	New Zealand Christmas tree

**Ceanothus* interbreed readily, so if you live within the wildland-urban interface (WUI—see map: <http://gisprod1.co.marin.ca.us/UrbanWildlandInterface/viewer.htm>) please don't plant.

These are potentially invasive elsewhere in California, but **allowed** by MMWD:

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	honey locust
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	oleander
<i>Pistachia chinensis</i>	Chinese pistache

These are **NOT allowed** by MMWD, but are less often planted:

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Albizia lophantha</i>	plume acacia
<i>Berberis darwinii</i>	Darwin barberry
<i>Cestrum parqui</i>	willow jessamine
<i>Cordyline australis</i>	giant dracaena, New Zealand cabbage tree
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	hawthorn
<i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i>	Monterey cypress
<i>Echium candicans</i>	pride-of-Madeira
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian-olive
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	red gum
<i>Ficus carica</i>	edible fig
<i>Fraxinus uhdei</i>	evergreen ash, shamel ash, tropical ash
<i>Hypericum canariense</i>	Canary Island hypericum
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	English holly
<i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i>	Australian tea tree
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	glossy privet
<i>Maytenus boaria</i>	mayten
<i>Myoporum laetum</i>	myoporum
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	tree tobacco
<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	Mexican Palo Verde
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	Canary Island date palm
<i>Pinus radiata cultivars</i>	Monterey pine
<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>	Victorian box
<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	cherry plum
<i>Pyracantha angustifolia</i> , <i>P. crenulata</i> , <i>P. coccinea</i>	pyracantha, firethorn
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	black locust
<i>Schinus molle</i>	Peruvian peppertree
<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>	Brazilian peppertree
<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>	athel tamarisk
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Siberian elm
<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	Mexican fan palm

Groundcovers and Turfgrasses

Because of their ability to quickly spread vegetatively, many groundcovers and turfgrasses can also be invasive. Fortunately, you can prevent their spread by disposing of clippings appropriately, and NEVER dumping them on or near wildlands!

Suggested alternatives for these groundcovers can be found at www.cal-ipc.org/landscaping/dpp/plantpage.php?region=bayarea&type=Ground%20covers.

Groundcovers **not allowed** by MMWD (*also discouraged by Marin County):

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Arctotheca calendula</i> (sterile)*	sterile capeweed
<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	bridal creeper
<i>Carpobrotus chilensis</i>	sea-fig, iceplant
<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i> *	Hottentot-fig, iceplant
<i>Conicosia pugioniformis</i>	narrowleaf iceplant
<i>Dimorphotheca sinuata</i>	African daisy
<i>Hedera helix</i> *, <i>H. canariensis</i> *	English ivy, Algerian ivy
<i>Malephora crocea</i>	coppery mesembryanthemum
<i>Mesembryanthemum crystallinum</i> *	crystalline iceplant
<i>Tropaeolum majus</i>	garden nasturtium
<i>Vicia villosa</i>	hairy vetch
<i>Vinca major</i> *	big periwinkle

Turfgrasses **not allowed**:

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Agrostis avenacea</i>	Pacific bentgrass
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	creeping bentgrass
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	sweet vernalgrass
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	bermudagrass
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	orchardgrass
<i>Ehrharta erecta</i>	erect veldtgrass
<i>Ehrharta longiflora</i>	long-flowered veldtgrass
<i>Lolium multiflorum</i>	Italian ryegrass
<i>Phalaris aquatica</i>	hardinggrass

Large (Specimen or Bunching) Grasses

Grasses **not allowed** by MMWD (*also discouraged by Marin County):

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Arundo donax*</i>	giant reed
<i>Cortaderia jubata</i>	jubatagrass
<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	pampasgrass
<i>Ehrharta calycina</i>	purple veldtgrass
<i>Nasella (Stipa) tenuissima</i>	feather needlegrass
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	crimson fountaingrass
<i>Pennisetum villosum</i>	feathertop
<i>Saccharum ravennae</i>	ravennagrass
<i>Stipa capensis</i>	Mediterranean steppegrass, twisted-awned speargrass

Acceptable alternatives include orange New Zealand sedge (*Carex testacea*), New Zealand flax (*Phormium*), pink muhly grass (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*), and clumping bamboo (*Fargesia*). More alternatives can be found at www.cal-ipc.org/landscaping/dpp/plantpage.php?region=bayarea&type=Ornamental%20grasses.

Herbs

Two of the plants on the “not allowed” list below are or have been particularly popular in landscaping: Mexican daisy (*Erigeron karvinskianus*) and sweet alyssum (*Lobularia maritima*). Suggested alternative white-flowered low-growing plants include white false petunia (*Calibrachoa ‘White’*), snow in summer (*Cerastium tomentosum*), chamomile sunray (*Helipterum* sp.), verbena (*Verbena ‘Babylon White’*), and star balsam (*Zaluzianskya ovata*).

Herbs **not allowed** by MMWD:

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Ageratina adenophora</i>	croftonweed, eupatorium
<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	three-cornered leek
<i>Anthemis cotula</i>	mayweed chamomile, dog fennel
<i>Bellardia trixago</i>	bellardia
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	English daisy
<i>Brassica rapa</i>	birdsrape mustard, field mustard
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i>	crown daisy
<i>Cistus ladanifer</i>	gum rockrose
<i>Cotula coronopifolia</i>	brassbuttons
<i>Crocsmia x crocosmiiflora</i>	montbretia
<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	artichoke thistle
<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	houndstongue
<i>Daucus carota</i>	wild carrot, Queen Anne’s lace

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	foxglove
<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>	Mexican daisy
<i>Euphorbia lathyris</i>	caper spurge
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	fennel
<i>Geranium retrorsum</i>	New Zealand geranium
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	herb-robert, Robert geranium
<i>Helichrysum petiolare</i>	licoriceplant
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	ox-eye daisy
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	yellow toadflax, butter and eggs
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	sweet alyssum
<i>Lupinus arboreus</i>	yellow bush lupine
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	white horehound
<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	pennyroyal
<i>Myosotis latifolia</i>	common forget-me-not
<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	common pokeweed
<i>Raphanus sativus</i>	radish
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	bouncingbet
<i>Tragopogon dubius</i>	yellow salsify
<i>Trifolium hirtum</i>	rose clover
<i>Verbena bonariensis, Verbena litoralis</i>	tall vervain, seashore vervain
<i>Watsonia meriana</i>	bulbil watsonia
<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>	calla lily

Aquatics

Water gardening can provide many benefits if done responsibly. The following aquatic plants (freshwater, saltwater, underwater, or emergent) are **not allowed** by MMWD:

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	alligator weed
<i>Egeria densa</i>	Brazilian egeria
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	water hyacinth
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	yellowflag iris
<i>Ludwigia hexapetala</i>	Uruguay water-primrose
<i>Ludwigia peploides</i> ssp. <i>montevidensis</i>	creeping water-primrose
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	parrotfeather
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian watermilfoil
<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	fragrant waterlily

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	curlyleaf pondweed
<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	giant salvinia
<i>Spartina alterniflora</i> (and <i>S. alterniflora</i> x <i>foliosa</i> hybrids)	smooth cordgrass and hybrids, Atlantic cordgrass
<i>Spartina anglica</i>	common cordgrass
<i>Spartina densiflora</i>	dense-flowered cordgrass
<i>Spartina patens</i>	saltmeadow cord grass
<i>Undaria pinnatifida</i>	wakame

Also Prohibited

The following plants are also prohibited, but almost never planted. They include listed noxious weeds, widespread weeds, and species with no ornamental value.

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acacia paradoxa</i>	kangaroothorn
<i>Acroptilon repens</i>	Russian knapweed
<i>Aegilops triuncialis</i>	barb goatgrass
<i>Aeschynomene rudis</i>	rough jointvetch
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	tree-of-heaven
<i>Aira caryophyllea</i>	silver hairgrass
<i>Aira praecox</i>	European hairgrass
<i>Alhagi maurorum</i>	camelthorn
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	European beachgrass
<i>Arctotheca calendula</i> (fertile)	fertile capeweed
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	onionweed
<i>Atriplex semibaccata</i>	Australian saltbush
<i>Avena barbata</i>	slender wild oat
<i>Avena fatua</i>	wild oat
<i>Bassia hyssopifolia</i>	fivehook bassia
<i>Brachypodium distachyon</i>	annual false-brome, false brome, purple false brome, stiff brome
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	perennial false-brome
<i>Brassica nigra</i>	black mustard
<i>Brassica tournefortii</i>	Saharan mustard, African mustard
<i>Briza maxima</i>	big quackinggrass, rattlesnakegrass
<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	ripgut brome
<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	soft brome
<i>Bromus japonicus</i>	Japanese brome, Japanese chess

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Bromus madritensis</i> ssp. <i>rubens</i>	red brome
<i>Bromus tectorum</i>	downy brome, cheatgrass
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	European sea-rocket
<i>Cardaria chalepensis</i>	lens-podded white-top
<i>Cardaria draba</i>	hoary cress
<i>Cardaria pubescens</i>	hairy whitetop
<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>	plumeless thistle
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	musk thistle
<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>	Italian thistle
<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>	slenderflower thistle
<i>Carthamus lanatus</i>	woolly distaff thistle
<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	purple starthistle
<i>Centaurea debeauxii</i>	meadow knapweed
<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>	diffuse knapweed
<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>	spotted knapweed
<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>	Malta starthistle, tocalote
<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	yellow starthistle
<i>Centaurea virgata</i> ssp. <i>squarrosa</i>	squarrose knapweed
<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	rush skeletonweed
<i>Chorispora tenella</i>	blue mustard
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada thistle
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	bull thistle
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	poison-hemlock
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	field bindweed
<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>	common crupina, bearded creeper
<i>Cynosurus echinatus</i>	hedgehog dogtailgrass
<i>Delairea odorata</i>	Cape-ivy, German-ivy
<i>Descurainia sophia</i>	flixweed, tansy mustard
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	common teasel
<i>Dipsacus sativus</i>	fuller's teasel
<i>Dittrichia graveolens</i>	stinkwort
<i>Emex spinosa</i>	spiny emex, devil's-thorn
<i>Erechtites glomerata</i> , <i>E. minima</i>	Australian fireweed, Australian burnweed
<i>Erodium botrys</i>	broadleaf filaree
<i>Erodium brachycarpum</i>	short-fruited filaree
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	redstem filaree
<i>Erodium moschatum</i>	whitestem filaree

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Euphorbia esula</i>	leafy spurge
<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>	oblong spurge
<i>Euphorbia terracina</i>	carnation spurge
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	fumitory
<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	French broom
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	cutleaf geranium
<i>Geranium molle</i>	dovefoot geranium
<i>Glyceria declinata</i>	waxy mannagrass
<i>Halogeton glomeratus</i>	halogeton
<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i>	shortpod mustard, summer mustard
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	common velvet grass
<i>Hordeum marinum, H. murinum</i>	Mediterranean barley, hare barley
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	hydrilla
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	common St. John's wort, klamathweed
<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	smooth catsear
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	rough catsear, hairy dandelion
<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	dyer's woad
<i>Kochia scoparia</i>	kochia
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	prickly lettuce
<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	perennial pepperweed, tall whitetop
<i>Linaria genistifolia ssp. dalmatica</i>	Dalmation toadflax
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	birdsfoot trefoil
<i>Lythrum hyssopifolium</i>	hyssop loosestrife
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	purple loosestrife
<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>	California burclover
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	yellow sweetclover
<i>Nothoscordum gracile</i>	false garlic
<i>Ononis alopecuroides</i>	foxtail restharrow
<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>	Scotch thistle
<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	creeping woodsorrel
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda buttercup, buttercup oxalis, yellow oxalis
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	yellow glandweed, sticky parentucellia
<i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i>	kikuyugrass
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	common reed
<i>Picris echioides</i>	bristly oxtongue
<i>Piptatherum miliaceum</i>	smilgrass
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	cutleaf plantain

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	buckhorn plantain, English plantain
<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>	Japanese knotweed
<i>Polygonum sachalinense</i>	Sakhalin knotweed
<i>Polypogon monspeliensis</i> and subspp.	rabbitfoot polypogon, annual beardgrass
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	creeping buttercup
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	castorbean
<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>	Himalaya blackberry
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	red sorrel, sheep sorrel
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	curly dock
<i>Salsola paulsenii</i>	barbwire Russian-thistle
<i>Salsola soda</i>	oppositeleaf Russian thistle
<i>Salsola tragus</i>	Russian-thistle
<i>Salvia aethiopsis</i>	Mediterranean sage
<i>Schismus arabicus</i> , <i>Schismus barbatus</i>	mediterranean grass
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	tansy ragwort
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	blessed milkthistle
<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	wild mustard, charlock
<i>Sisymbrium irio</i>	London rocket
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	silverleaf nightshade
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	spiny sowthistle
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish broom
<i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i>	medusahead
<i>Tamarix parviflora</i>	smallflower tamarisk
<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>	saltcedar, tamarisk
<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	common tansy
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	common dandelion
<i>Torilis arvensis</i>	hedgепarsley
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	common mullein, woolly mullein
<i>Vulpia bromoides</i>	squirreltail fescue
<i>Vulpia myuros</i>	rattail fescue