

# INVASIVE PLANT LIST - HOW TO IDENTIFY & REMOVE

## Black Swallow Wort



Long and vine-like.  
Often found  
winding around  
fences.

Early season: Has  
small, purple,  
star-shaped flowers  
Later season: Has  
long thin pods.

-Dig up as much of the  
roots as possible.  
-If no digging: Pull  
from base of plant,  
close to the ground.  
-Worst case = Remove  
seed pods only.

**-To dispose:** Bag and  
throw away in trash.

## Knotweed



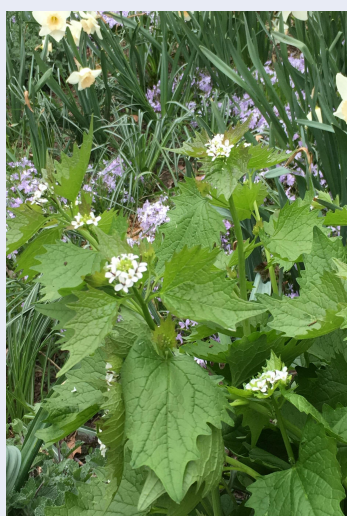
Looks like bamboo.  
Grows fast and gets  
very tall – over 6 ft.

Found along streets  
and fences. Breaks  
easily.

-Cut as close to the  
ground as possible.  
- If possible, cover cut  
area with black plastic  
or a tarp to prevent  
further growth.

**-To dispose:** Bag and  
throw away in trash.  
Bag every single piece  
because cuttings left  
behind will regrow.

## Garlic Mustard



Leaves are  
kidney-shaped with  
scalloped edges.  
Roots and new  
leaves smell like  
garlic.

Early season: Small,  
four-petal white  
flowers at stem ends.  
Later season: Long,  
skinny seed pods.

-Pull out. Try to get  
as much root as  
possible. (Moist soil  
makes pulling  
easier.)

**-To dispose:** Bag and  
throw away in the  
trash.

Check out other invasives! → <https://www.somervillema.gov/invasive>

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## Norway Maple Seedlings



Blunter-tipped leaves than other maples. Leaves have a milky liquid when torn.

Abundant anywhere near a mature Norway Maple tree.

-When small: Pull by hand or dig out by the root with a tool.  
-When larger: Cut off at ground level.

**-To dispose:** Ok to throw directly into yard waste.

## Bittersweet



Strong, woody vines that wind around anything they touch (new growth vines are green).  
Rounded leaves with toothed edges.  
Yellow fruit with red center in late summer.  
Orange roots.

-Cut stems and untangle vines.  
-Dig or pull out roots.

**-To dispose:** Bag everything and throw away in trash.

## Motherwort



Found in wooded areas, fields, and disturbed areas.  
Grows in large colonies.  
Pinkish purple flowers bloom throughout summer.  
Some people can have skin reactions.

-Pulls out easily.

**-To dispose:** Ok to throw directly into yard waste.

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