

Pick-a-Park: Invasive Detective



~MOST WANTED~

Spotted Lanternfly, *Lycorma delicatula*

Status: Invasive
Origin: China
Threat level: High
At risk: Grapes, apples, hops, walnuts, hardwood trees
Strategy: Sap sucker
Symptoms: Weakened plants, damaged plants, secondary complications



Photo: USDA APHIS

For more information, visit bit.ly/3K4Pj9o

An **invasive species** is a non-native organism, introduced from somewhere else, that has caused or has the potential to cause, ecological or economic harm, or endangers human health. If you find a Spotted Lanternfly, snap a picture, squash it, and report your sighting to the Maryland Department of Agriculture.



Put on your detective hat and head to your favorite state park!

Review the next page to learn more about some of Maryland's worst offenders-invasive species! Then head to a State Park to do some investigating of your own. Can you find any of these offenders? Bonus: Ask a Park Ranger if there are any invasive removal projects that you could help with that that park.

For more Park Quest activities, visit dnr.maryland.gov/parkquest!



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Japanese stiltgrass, *Microstegium vimineum*

Prefers shady areas; rapidly takes over disturbed areas; less noticeable early in the growing season, by the time it's noticed it has already set seed; sometimes confused with White Grass (*Leersia virginica*); crowds out native plants.

Photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Wineberry, *Rubus phoenicolasius*

Prefers edge habitats and moist places; forms dense thickets, covered with distinctive reddish-brown hairs; sometimes confused with raspberries; crowds out native plants.

Photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Garlic mustard, *Alliaria petiolata*

Prefers shady forests; a biennial that forms a leafy rosette the first year and flowers the second year; has tiny white flowers; when crushed, the leaves emit an onion/garlic odor; crowds out native plants.

Photo: Mary C. Legg, Bugwood.org



Brown marmorated stink bug, *Halyomorpha halys*

Pest of agricultural and ornamental crops; overwinters in houses; when touched or crushed, they emit a "stinky" odor.

Photo: Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org



Mute swan, *Cygnus olor*

Can consume up to 20 pounds of submerged aquatic vegetation daily; one of the most aggressive waterfowl species; a threat to native aquatic plants and waterfowl species.

Photo: Chesapeake Bay Program



Spongy moth, *Lymantria dispar*

Formerly known as gypsy moth; larvae consume foliage; defoliate plants, leaving them more susceptible to disease and other damage.

Photo: University of MD Extension



For more information visit mdinvasives.org.



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If you found an invasive species, draw it's picture and complete the details below. If you didn't, then get creative and invent your own invasive species. What will it look like? What will it be named? Where did it arrive from? What resources does it place at risk?

Common name: _____
Scientific name: _____
Status: _____
Origin: _____
Threat level: _____

At risk: _____
Strategy: _____
Symptoms: _____

Other notes: _____

