



City of Newburyport
Tree Commission

INVASIVE TREES IN MASSACHUSETTS

Invasive Trees are non-native species that have spread into native or minimally managed plant systems in Massachusetts. Many of them were introduced deliberately for their agricultural, medicinal, and/or landscaping values. Others arrived inadvertently, hitching rides as seed in the fur or manure of livestock, in the sheared wool shipped to textile mills for processing, or even in the clothing people wore. An invasive species may gain an ecological edge since the insects, diseases, and foraging animals that naturally keep its growth in check in its native range are not present in its new habitat. These Invasive Trees cause economic or environmental harm by developing self-sustaining populations that dominate and/or disrupt native ecosystems. Invasive Trees can form dense stands that crowd or shade-out native Trees.

In some cases, trees that were once planted deliberately as street trees due to their adaptability and hardiness are now considered invasive. The Norway maple, originally from Europe and Western Asia and introduced in the US in the 1750s, is one such tree. Fast-growing and a prolific seed producer, it multiplies rapidly and can crowd out all other types of vegetation. Widely scattered throughout Newburyport, it is now deemed to be invasive because it threatens native trees, such as the sugar maple.

The trees listed below are NOT allowed for planting in Newburyport.

<i>BOTANICAL NAME</i>	<i>COMMON NAME</i>
Acer platanoides	Norway Maple
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore Maple (Planetree Maple)
Ailanthus altissima	Tree-of-Heaven (Copal Tree)
Phellodendron amurense	Amur Cork Tree
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black Locust (False Acacia)

Listing by:

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

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