

Invasive Species of Truckee Meadows

Non-Native Plants Alien, Exotic, Introduced



What is a Non-Native Plant?

Non-native plants are plant species that have been introduced to an area outside of their native range, either purposefully or accidentally. They include grasses, trees, shrubs, vines, floral or fruit bearing, and terrestrial or aquatic species.



Bamboo (*Phyllostachys spp.*)

How are they Introduced?

Non-native plants are often introduced to new ecosystems via international trade, sold across the world as ornamental plants in nurseries. In addition, they can be transported unintentionally as seeds or small seedlings in plants or soils.

Non-native plants threaten biodiversity and could result in the decline or extinction of native plants and insects. Dependent on the environmental conditions present in an unexposed habitat, they also have the potential to thrive and become noxious invasive species.

Weeping lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula*)



Bush honeysuckles (*Lonicera spp.*)

Management

While many actions must be taken at a higher level, there are ways YOU can make a difference in your local ecosystem! To help minimize the distribution of non-native plants, support local nurseries and choose to plan for gardens that support native plant and insect species. Educate others on the importance of native biodiversity and encourage the replacement of non-native species in landscaping and gardens.

Plant These Native Alternatives:



Giant goldenrod
(*Solidago gigantea*)



Big sagebrush
(*Artemisia tridentata*)



Sticky purple geranium
(*Geranium viscosissimum*)



Yellow rabbitbrush
(*Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus*)

Visit the National Wildlife Federation "Native Plant Finder" online to pick the best native species for your garden!