

Invasive Species of Truckee Meadows

Siberian Elm

Ulmus pumila



Identification

To identify Siberian Elm, look for the serrated leaf margin with alternate leaves along the stem. Flowers are petal-less and greenish-red to brown in color. The bark is furrowed, and light brown to grayish in color. Trunk shapes are often irregular, due to weak branch limbs and constant resprouting at the base of the tree.



Origin and Spread

Siberian Elm is native to northern China, eastern Siberia, and Korea. They were first brought to the United States in the 1860s, and commonly used as windbreaks during the Dustbowl era. They were occasionally used as ornamental trees after the outbreak of Dutch Elm disease killed many American Elms.

Management

Control Siberian Elm seedlings by hand pulling, hoeing or tilling. Small trees can be taken out with a weed wrench or a grub hoe. Full sized trees can be cut down, however this will encourage resprouting from the stump that will need to be managed for several years. A black plastic bag or weighted bucket can be placed over the stump to prevent this. Another option is to girdle the tree, which will deprive it of water and nutrients, and eventually kill it within 1-2 years. Herbicides can also be used on cut stumps. Always **read the label**, and avoid use in spring.



Plant These Native Alternatives:



Western white pine
(*Pinus monticola*)



Singleleaf pinyon pine
(*Pinus monophylla*)



Sierra white fir
(*Abies lowiana*)



Desert Peach
(*Prunus andersonii*)

Other alternatives:

Western juniper
(*Juniperus grandis*)
Fremont cottonwood
(*Populus fremontii* subsp.
fremontii)

For more information and resources, check out this link:

