

Under the Shoreland Protection Act, noxious and nuisance plant species may be removed from the Protected Shoreland Area (the first 250 feet from the mean water level of lakes and ponds greater than 10 acres) without requiring a Shoreland Permit or Registration. The following is a combination of plant species designated as noxious weeds by the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets under 6 V.S.A. Chapter 84 and nuisance plants designated by the Secretary of Natural Resources. Only the species listed below may be removed without requiring a Shoreland Permit or Registration. Additional removal of vegetation containing species which are not on this list may require a Shoreland Permit or Registration.

Noxious and Nuisance Plant Species List

- *Acer ginnala* (Amur maple)
- *Acer platanoides* (Norway maple)
- *Aegopodium podagraria* (bishopsweed)
- *Ailanthus altissima* (tree-of-heaven)
- *Alliaria petiolata* (garlic mustard)
- *Anthriscus sylvestris* (wild chervil)
- *Berberis thunbergii* (Japanese barberry)
- *Berberis vulgaris* (common barberry)
- *Butomus umbellatus* (flowering rush)
- *Celastrus orbiculatus* (oriental bittersweet)
- *Euonymus alatus* (burningbush)
- *Fallopia japonica* (Japanese knotweed)
- *Heracleum mantegazzianum* (giant hogweed)
- *Heracleum maximum* (American cow-parsnip)
- *Heracleum sphondylium* (European cow-parsnip)
- *Iris pseudacorus* (yellow flag iris)
- *Laportea canadensis* (wood nettle)
- *Lonicera japonica* (Japanese honeysuckle)
- *Lonicera maackii* (Amur honeysuckle)
- *Lonicera morrowii* (Morrow's honeysuckle)
- *Lonicera tatarica* (Tatarian honeysuckle)
- *Lonicera x bella* (bell honeysuckle)
- *Lythrum salicaria* (purple loosestrife)
- *Pastinaca sativa* (poison parsnip)
- *Phragmites australis ssp. australis* (common reed)
- *Rhamnus cathartica* (common buckthorn)
- *Rhamnus frangula* (glossy buckthorn)
- *Toxicodendron radicans* (poison ivy)
- *Toxicodendron rydbergii* (poison ivy)
- *Toxicodendron vernix* (poison sumac)
- *Urtica dioica* (stinging nettle)
- *Vincetoxicum nigrum* (black swallow-wort)



Japanese knotweed is one of the most successful invasive species worldwide due to its aggressive growth and resilience. No Shoreland Permit or Registration is required to remove Japanese knotweed.



Although poison ivy is a native species, unknowingly coming into contact with this plant often creates an irritable skin reaction. No Shoreland Permit or Registration is required to remove poison ivy.

The complete list of noxious weeds designated by the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets under 6 V.S.A. chapter 84 may be found here: [Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets Quarantine #3 -Noxious Weeds](#)

Identifying Vegetation

For assistance with plant identification, please contact your regional [Shoreland Permit Analyst](#) or visit one of the following web resources:

- <http://plants.usda.gov/>
- <https://gobotany.newenglandwild.org/>
- <http://www.vtinvasives.org/>

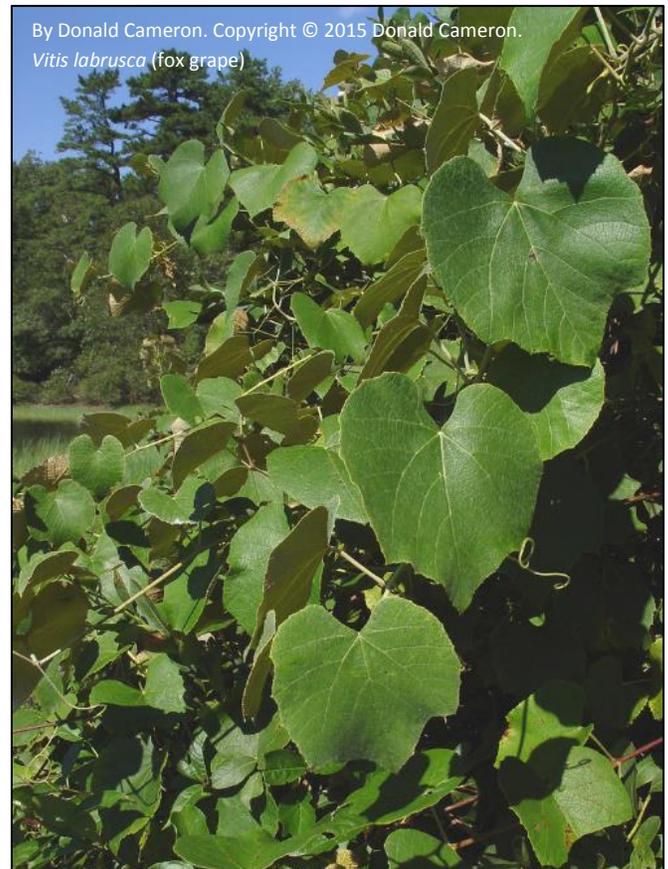
Removing Vegetation with a Plan

If you identify a species on the noxious and nuisance plant list on your property, Vermont Shoreland Permitting recommends creating a re-vegetation plan prior to plant removal. The removal of noxious and nuisance plants is not an exemption to create cleared area, which is a regulated activity under the Shoreland Protection Act. Once a listed species is removed, the disturbed area may not be converted to a cleared area (e.g., grass lawn, garden, or landscaped area). To avoid the reestablishment of unwanted noxious or nuisance species after a control project, employing a re-vegetation plan increases the likelihood of a successful project. Examples of native species to use in a re-vegetation plan may be found in the following guidance document, [Planting & Maintaining Vegetation Areas](#), provided by [Lake Wise](#).

For re-vegetation plan guidance, [contact the Lake Wise coordinator](#): Amy Picotte; amy.picotte@vermont.gov

Unlisted Plant Species

Native and exotic plant species within Vermont, which may be unwanted by a landowner but are not listed on the noxious and nuisance plant species list (e.g., grape, staghorn sumac, reed canary grass), may not be removed unless authorized by a Shoreland Permit or Registration or through the use of the Vegetation Protection Standards. Consult [The Vermont Shoreland Protection Act: A Handbook for Shoreland Development](#) for additional vegetation management options.



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Vitis labrusca (fox grape)

Although wild grape may be seen as unwanted by some landowners, it acts as excellent habitat and a food source for numerous songbirds and small mammals.