

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

# Invasive species are costly to society.

Invasive species are expensive. They are costly to society in many ways through both, direct management, and decreased production. The annual estimated cost in the United States of invasive species control is about 120 billion dollars per year. It is estimated that the global cost of invasive species management is equal to five percent of the global economy.

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# KNOW YOUR INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES

A helpful identification tool brought to you by your Neighborhood Services Team.





Brazilian pepper, *Schinus terebinthifolius*



Rosary pea, *Abrus precatorius*



Air potato, *Dioscorea bulbifera*



Lantana, *Lantana camara*



Paper tree, *Melaleuca quinquenervia*



Australian pine, All casuarina species

## Invasive Exotics

**Sec. 3-422. - Plant material standards.** Highly invasive exotic plants must be removed from development areas. Methods to remove and control invasive exotic plants must be included as well as a statement that the development area will be maintained free from invasive exotic plants in perpetuity.

### Sec. 10-97. - Vacant lot maintenance.

(b) The existence of any of the following conditions or conduct on vacant property is hereby declared to constitute a public nuisance:

- (1) Accumulation of dry vegetation, weeds, grass, uncultivated vegetation, and invasive exotics as defined in [section 3-422\(f\)](#) of the Land Development Code, as may be amended or replaced:
  - a. Which results in a condition that may threaten the health, safety or economic welfare of abutting or adjacent property owners or occupants;
  - b. Which presents a visual blight upon neighborhoods;
  - c. Which may harbor insect or rodent infestation that creates an unsafe or unsanitary condition on the property;
  - d. Which may likely become a public safety hazard, including, but not limited to, fire and flood hazard; or
  - e. Which overhangs or grows across property lines.



Lead tree, *Leucaena leucocephala*



Scaevola Beach naupaka



Guinea grass, *Panicum maximum*



Woman's tongue, *Albizia lebeck*



Ceasarweed, *Urena lobata*



Carrotwood, *Cupianopsis anacardioides*



Java plum, *Syzygium cumini*



Norfolk island pine, *Araucaria heterophylla*

## Why Are Invasive Species Bad?

They can affect the chemical makeup of the water, availability of resources, and even alter the food web. Invasive species impact other species more directly through competition for resources. Because invasive species evolved with other competitors and native species evolved in the absence of invasive species they lack the ability to compete with invasive species. This gives invasive species the upper hand when resources become scarce. This leads to an overall decrease in biodiversity as the area invaded becomes less populated by native species and more taken over by invasive species.

The invasive species that are bad for the environment are usually non-native invasive species. These plants colonize habitats, and exclude the native plants and animals. Since they decrease native biodiversity, they are bad for the environment.