

# NOT-WANTED INVASIVE SHRUBS & GRASSES IN YOUR LANDSCAPE!

EARLY DETECTION & CONTROL WILL PREVENT INFESTATIONS



Amur Maple



Winged Burning Bush



Japanese Barberry



Tamarisk / Salt Cedar



Ribbon / Variegated Reed Canary Grass



Chinese / Amur Silver Grass



# NOT-WANTED INVASIVE SHRUBS & GRASSES IN YOUR LANDSCAPE!

*These shrubs and grasses may spread from your yard to natural areas;  
displacing native plants and disrupting woodland, grassland or aquatic ecosystems.*

**AMUR MAPLE** (*Acer ginnala*) was imported from northern Asia in the late 1800s for its bright red, orange and yellow fall color. Found in roadside plantings, hedges and wind-breaks; may grow 20 feet high and 30 feet wide, with smooth gray bark. Opposite, narrow **leaves** are three-lobed; the middle lobe longest; reaching 3 to 5 inches. Small clusters of yellowish to white **flowers bloom** April - May. A vast number **seeds** are held in narrow-angled samara pairs, each 1 - 1.5 inch long. Seeds inside samaras small and flat in comparison to native maples. Amur maple is replacing native woodland and savanna shrubs in native plant communities.

**WINGED BURNING BUSH** (*Euonymus alatus*) is a shrub up to 15 feet tall with bright pink to red fall color. Corky wings on twigs and branches help distinguish it from native eastern wahoo. **Leaves** are opposite and toothed. Inconspicuous white **flowers**. **Blooms** in late spring. Fruits are eaten by birds who spread the seeds. Also spreads vegetatively from roots. Long identified as invasive in the eastern U.S.; it is now invading forests in Minnesota.

**JAPANESE BARBERRY** (*Berberis thunbergii*), a thorny shrub, may or may not have purple-red foliage. 1-6' tall. **Leaves** are rounded, arranged in whorled clusters above a single sharp spine. Shade tolerant. **Blooms** in May. **Flowers** are yellow and hang in groups of 2 - 4. Red, teardrop shaped fruits are eaten by birds, spreading the **seeds**. Range is expanding in the Midwest. Seedy varieties will be phased out of Minnesota nurseries by December of 2017. Beginning January 2018, seedy varieties will be added to the Minnesota Noxious Weed Restricted List.

**TAMARISK or SALT CEDAR** (*Tamarix ssp.*) is a shrub or small tree with scaly, cedar-like **leaves**, which contain volatile oils. **Flowers** are long, thin, pink or white spikes; **blooms** June - September. This species affects water levels and increases riparian wildfires in the western U.S. One mature plant may remove 60 + gallons of groundwater each day with its deep taproot. Special leaf glands accumulate salt. As leaves drop over time, soil salinity increases, preventing growth of other plants. Wind and water disperse **seeds**, also spreads vegetatively. Becoming a problem nearby in North Dakota; planting is not recommended.

**RIBBON GRASS** (*Phalaris arundinacea*), a color variation of invasive **Reed Canary Grass**; grows up to 6.5 feet tall. Sparse, open, 4 - 6 inch long flower spikes, held high above leaves, become tan and tightly closed when mature. **Blooms** May - June. Papery "ears" extend up the stem from leaf attachments. Invades shorelines, rain gardens, ditches, wetlands and other wet areas. Spreads by seed and rhizome, forcing out native plants. Difficult to eradicate once established.

**AMUR / CHINESE SILVER GRASS** (*Miscanthus sacchariflorus*), incorrectly referred to as pampas grass, is a perennial, ornamental grass, 3 - 10 feet tall. Forms thick monocultures; replacing other species as they expand. **Leaves** up to 1 inch wide x 40 inches long with a prominent, sharp, white mid-vein. **Blooms** late July to early August. Silvery or white **flowers** start thin and shimmery; becoming plume-like, lasting through late fall or winter. Infests roadsides and wet places: ditches, stream, lake and wetland edges. Spread mechanisms are under investigation.

