



Report all sightings of invasive species.

www.invasivespeciesireland.com

Report your sighting on the Invasive Species Ireland website. Take note of the following when making your submission:

What?

Species name you wish to report.

When?

Date first recorded (dd/mm/yyyy)

Where?

Place name:

6 fig grid ref:

Who?

Contact details of recorder

Your name, address, telephone number and email address:

Additional information can also be supplied such as abundance and habitat type.

Submitting your sightings of invasive species provides a clearer understanding of their distribution in Ireland; their potential for spread; and their impact on native species, habitats and ecosystems. It also allows for more thorough and detailed research into this complex subject.

If you have many records to report or seek guidance on recording and submitting record data please visit:

<http://invasives.biodiversityireland.ie/submit-records>

Some most unwanted ESTABLISHED INVADERS



Species: *Fallopia japonica*

Common name: Japanese knotweed

Habitat: Riverbanks, agricultural land, roadsides and urban areas.

Impact: Reduces biodiversity, increases erosion, impacts on development sites and structures.



Species: *Impatiens glandulifera*

Common name: Himalayan balsam

Habitat: Riverbanks, woodlands and other damp areas.

Impact: Reduces biodiversity and increases erosion.



Species: *Gunnera tinctoria*

Common name: Giant rhubarb

Habitat: Riverbanks, agricultural land, wet grasslands, quarries, roadsides, and coastal cliffs.

Impacts: Impact on biodiversity and agriculture.



Species: *Crepidula fornicata*

Common name: Slipper limpet

Habitat: Marine environment

Impacts: Impact on aquaculture and protected habitats and species.



Species: *Eriocheir sinensis*

Common name: Chinese mitten crab

Habitat: Rivers, lakes and estuaries

Impact: Disrupts ecosystem functioning of lakes and rivers. Increased erosion.



Species: *Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*

Common name: Floating pennywort

Habitat: Slow moving freshwater

Impact: Reduces the habitat quality for native flora and fauna. Increases the risk of flooding.

Some most unwanted POTENTIAL INVADERS



Species: *Ludwigia* species

Common name: Water primrose

Habitat: Freshwater

Impact: Competition with native species. Increases the risk of flooding.



Species: *Pacifastacus leniusculus*

Common name: Signal crayfish

Habitat: Freshwater

Impact: Could cause the extinction of native white-clawed crayfish and reduce biodiversity. Could also damage river and canal banks leading to increased erosion.



Species: *Rana catesbeiana*

Common name: American bullfrog

Habitat: Freshwater

Impact: Transmits chytrid fungus, *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, to native species. Competes with native species.



Species: *Sander lucioperca*

Common name: Zander

Habitat: Freshwater

Impact: Impact on fish communities and risk of fish disease transmission.



Species: *Anoplophora glabripennis*

Common name: Asian longhorn beetle.

Habitat: Broadleaved trees

Impact: Severe impacts on broadleaved trees.



Species: *Myiopsitta monachus*

Common name: Monk parakeet

Habitat: Terrestrial

Impact: Competition with native bird species, can impact on power supply when they nest on overhead lines.

Invasive species threaten native plants, animals and habitats.

Invasive species cost our economy millions of Euro.

Invasive species can threaten our health.

It is illegal to deliberately introduce any non-native plant or animal species into the wild.

Learn how to stop the spread to protect our environment, economy and health.



Not all non-native species are invasive. Whether or not a non native species is considered "invasive" in its new environment depends on the impacts it has when and if it becomes established.

Invasive species are considered one of the main causes of biodiversity loss.

Invasive species are estimated to cost the European economy in excess of €12 Billion per annum.

The problems caused by invasive species are steadily getting worse as movement of people and goods increases.



Yellow-bellied slider

American mink
Giant rhubarb Muntjac deer
Zander Floating pennywort
Japanese knotweed
Yellow-bellied slider

Invasive Species Ireland website

The Invasive Species Ireland website provides information on the impacts associated with some of Ireland's Most Unwanted invasive species. The website also has useful tools for anyone wanting to manage invasive species or simply learn more about the problem.



Some of the tools include:

- Invasive Species Action Plans
- Best Practice Management Documents
- Education and awareness materials
- Template presentations
- Species identification guides
- Guides on how to record invasive species
- Information on how you can get involved in preventing and managing invasive species.

The Invasive Species Ireland team is also available to provide advice to anyone wishing to know more about invasive species and their impact in Ireland.

For more information see www.invasivespeciesireland.com



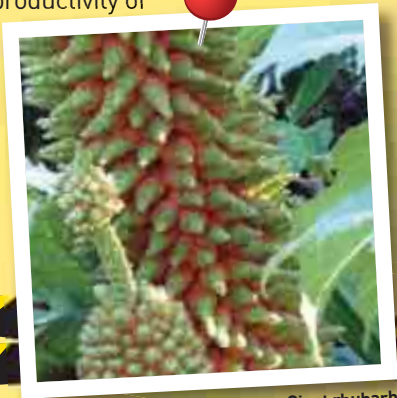
Be Plant Wise: Guidelines for people with aquatic ponds.

- Invasive aquatic plants can damage our ponds, waterways and the environment. Follow these tips when managing your pond:
- Remove unwanted aquatic plants by hand and dispose of them on the compost heap or in your green waste bin.
 - Never place them in or near a pond or waterway where they can quickly become a problem. Don't dump your plants in the wild - this could be illegal and the plants could damage the environment.
 - Tiny fragments can re-grow so make sure you clean your footwear and equipment.
 - Never empty waste water into streams, rivers, ponds and lakes.

Find out more at www.invasivespeciesireland.com

Impacts: Environment and Economy

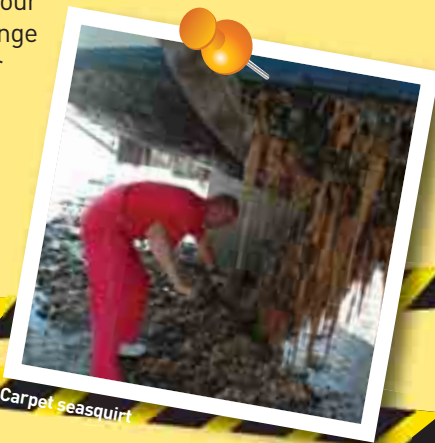
- Invasive species are considered one of the greatest threats to biodiversity worldwide.
- Once an invasive species is introduced its impacts will potentially grow as the species spreads.
 - The introduction of an invasive species has the potential to threaten some of our rarest flora and fauna and to reduce species richness and diversity by damaging sensitive ecosystems.
 - Invasive species have the potential to clog waterways causing flooding, block water intakes for industry, cause structural damage to roads and buildings, affect drinking water supplies, affect plant and animal health and impact the productivity of farming.
 - Invasive species may have impacts which change how we receive vital natural resources and what we have to pay for them.



Giant rhubarb

Impacts: Services and Structures

- As well as having impacts on the environment and the economy, invasive species may have detrimental impacts on human lifestyles.
- The impacts created by the spread of invasive species can be direct or indirect and can affect everything from recreational activities to infra-structure.
 - No matter what your job, hobby, interest or lifestyle, invasive species have the potential to disrupt your activities as they transform the environment around us.
 - Activities such as fishing, boating, diving and walking can be affected as invasive species outcompete our native species, foul our equipment and change the dynamics of our waterways and landscape.



Carpet seaweed

How do invasive species get here and how do they spread?

Our activities are the main cause of the arrival of invasive species.

Many species are deliberately released, like species of fish for angling. Others have escaped from our gardens and farms like the American mink and giant rhubarb. Some arrive as hitch hikers and stowaways with imported goods. For example, the New Zealand flatworm was introduced with ornamental plants.

Yet with some simple measures much of this can be stopped.



Himalayan balsam

Be Pet Wise: Guidelines for pet owners.

Non-native pet and aquarium species such as mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish and plants are often found in the natural environment. These can become invasive and impact on native plant and animal species.

The deliberate and accidental release of pets and aquarium species is spreading invasive species across the island of Ireland.

Invasive pets can damage our native biodiversity and the environment.

- Never release pets into the wild.
- Always keep your pet secure so that it cannot escape.
- Remember that it can be cruel to release a pet into the wild.
- It is illegal to release any non-native pet species into the wild.



Be Pet Wise

Find out more at www.invasivespeciesireland.com

Biosecurity: Guidelines for water users.

Many invasive species are spread either accidentally or intentionally by those that use our waterways for recreational activities such as boating or angling. Water users can help prevent the spread of invasive species by following some simple measures:

- Never deliberately introduce a species of plant or animal into a waterbody.
- Never use live bait that did not come from the island of Ireland. Always try to use bait in the same waterbody that it came from and never re-use bait in a different waterbody.
- Remember that transferring fish or bait from one waterbody to another can lead to the transfer of parasites or disease of important species of fish.
- Anglers should ensure that nets and equipment are dry and that they have been thoroughly cleaned since last used. Always visually check equipment for signs of plants, animals, and even grit or dirt.
- Sailors, windsurfers, boaters and other small craft users should ensure that boats/boards have been washed since they were last used and that bilge pumps are empty.

For more information see the **Water Users Code of Practice** available on the www.invasivespeciesireland.com website

Biosecurity: Guidelines for construction and land-owners.

Land-owners and the construction industry should be aware how species spread and put in place practices that will limit the opportunity for invasive species to spread to their sites:

- Avoid sourcing soil from areas that are known to have invasive species present.
- Avoid disturbing stands of invasive species. Disturbing stands can disperse seeds or rhizomes of some of our most damaging invasive species.
- Watch out for seeds and rhizomes contaminating equipment and machinery. Always remove and clean any signs of contamination before going to a new site.
- If working on rivers, lakes or in the marine environment, be aware that your activities can spread invasive aquatic species. Adopt practices that can limit the chances of spreading invasive aquatic species.

For more information on invasive species relevant to land-owners and the construction industry, see the www.invasivespeciesireland.com website.