

HIPP Harpswell Invasive Plant Partnership

Invasive Out

.....

Native In



Asiatic Knotweed

Reynoutria japonica, aka *Fallopia japonica*

- Designated by the State of Maine as “Severely Invasive”.
- Perennial shrub grows to 10’ in a dense stand; sometimes called “bamboo” because of its segmented stalks.
- Thickets release chemicals that suppress other plants.
- Common on private properties and along Harpswell’s roadsides.
- Outcompetes native plants and provides limited value for native pollinators and other native wildlife.

Summersweet

Clethra alnifolia

- Shrub that typically grows 3-6’ high and spreads to 4-6’ wide.
- Produces an abundance of sweetly scented flowers during the waning days of summer, when few other shrubs are in bloom.
- Showy bottlebrush-like flower clusters, typically 3-5” in length, last for weeks.
- Attracts a variety of butterflies and bees with its attractive fragrance. Leaves turn brilliant golden-yellow in fall before dropping for the winter.
- Sturdy native shrub is remarkably adaptable, tolerating shade, variable soil moistures, and salty air, making it a valuable addition to woodland settings and coastal gardens.

Other native-to-Maine choices to replace knotweed

Nannyberry (*Viburnum lentago*)

<https://extension.umaine.edu/publications/2583e/>

Red Osier Dogwood
(*Swida*, aka *Cornus sericea*)

<https://extension.umaine.edu/gardening/2023/12/14/would-the-climate-on-a-maine-island-be-suitable-for-planting-a-dogwood/>
<https://extension.umn.edu/trees-and-shrubs/redosier-dogwood>