

Vermont Horticultural Professional Non-native Invasive Species Voluntary Code of Conduct



This Voluntary Code of Conduct was developed by Green Works-The Vermont Nursery and Landscape Association, the Vermont Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, and the Vermont Invasive Exotic Plant Committee (VIEPC). The intent of the Code is to reduce the sale of non-native plants that have been found to be invasive in Vermont yet are currently legal to sell. In 2010 the VIEPC is seeking to add the following species to The Department of Agriculture's Quarantine Rule: Japanese Barberry, Burning Bush, Norway Maple, Amur Maple, and Yellow Iris, including all cultivars for these species. After these plants have been added to the Rule, the Vermont Department of Agriculture will allow a three year phase out period. This gives nurseries a grace period in which they can sell off existing stock of these species. To learn more about the rule go to www.vtinvasiveplants.org.

Vermont horticultural professionals, including nursery owners, landscape designers, landscape architects, and landscapers are asked to cease the sale and use of these species by March 1, 2011. This is prior to when they actually become illegal to sell. Professionals who agree to the conditions outlined below will be recognized for their efforts through websites, press releases, and other media opportunities offered by the organizations listed above. They will also receive a placard that they can hang in their place of business and a decal for office and vehicle windows.

By signing this document, you agree to cease the sale and use of Japanese Barberry, Burning Bush, Norway Maple, Amur Maple, and Yellow Iris, including all cultivars for these species, by March 1, 2011. You understand that this is prior to when the law would require you to officially do so.

I am committed to reducing the spread of non-native invasive plants that originate from the horticultural industry. I agree to abide by the guidelines outlined below. *Check all that apply.*

- I am a nursery owner.** I will stop selling the plants listed above prior to March 1, 2011.
- I am a landscape designer or landscape architect (circle which one).** I will stop developing landscape designs that include the plants listed above prior to March 1, 2011.
- I am a landscaper.** My business will stop installing the plants listed above prior to March 1, 2011.
- I will encourage customers and clients to remove invasive plants from their landscaping, and purchase and garden with safe alternatives.

Business Name: _____

Business owner name (please print clearly): _____

Business owner signature (please print clearly): _____

Date: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Website: _____

