

VII. Voluntary Code of Conduct for Landscape Architects

Work with local plant ecologists, horticulturists, nurseries, botanic gardens, conservation organizations and others to determine what species in your region either are currently highly invasive or show aggressive potential.

Increase interaction with other professionals and non-professionals to identify alternative plant material and other solutions to problems caused by harmful invasive plants.

Take advantage of continuing education opportunities to learn more about the invasive species issue.

Identify and specify non-invasive species that are aesthetically and horticulturally suitable alternatives to invasive species in your region.

Eliminate specification of species that are invasive in your region.

Be aware of potential environmental impacts beyond the designed and managed area of the landscape plan (for example, plants may spread to adjacent natural areas or cropland).

Encourage nurseries and other suppliers to provide landscape contractors and the public with non-invasive plants.

Collaborate with other local experts and agencies in the development and revision of local landscape ordinances. Promote inclusion of invasive species issues in these ordinances.

VIII. Voluntary Code of Conduct for the Gardening Public

Ask for only non-invasive species when you purchase plants. Plant only environmentally safe species in your gardens. Work towards and promote new landscape design that is friendly to local ecosystems.

Seek the best information on which species are invasive in your area. Sources could include botanical gardens, nurseries, horticulturists, conservationists and Government agencies.

Remove invasive species from your property and replace them with non-invasive species suited to your site and needs.

Do not trade plants with other gardeners if you know they are species with invasive characteristics.

Request that botanical gardens and nurseries promote, display and sell only non-invasive species.

Help educate your community and other gardeners in your area through personal contact and in such settings as garden clubs and other civic groups.

Ask garden writers and other media to emphasize the problem of invasive species and provide information. Request that garden writers promote only non-invasive species.

Invite speakers knowledgeable on the invasive species issue to speak to garden clubs, schools and other community groups.

Seek the best information on control of invasive plant species and organize neighbourhood work groups to remove invasive plant species under the guidance of knowledgeable professionals.

Volunteer at botanical gardens and natural areas to assist ongoing efforts to diminish the threat of invasive plants.

Participate in early warning systems by reporting invasive species you observe in your area to the relevant authority, i.e. the BEST Commission, Department of Agriculture or the Botanical Gardens.

Assist garden clubs to create policies regarding the use of invasive species not only in horticulture, but in activities such as flower shows.

Urge florists and other to eliminate the use of invasive plant material.