

A Friendly Notice about Invasive Plants

It appears your property may contain
Purple Loosestrife



Invasive plants are aggressive non-native species that reproduce rapidly, outcompete native species, and can negatively impact agriculture, industry, recreation, forestry, human health, and the environment. Invasive plants may be introduced unintentionally, as hitchhikers on clothing, gear, or equipment, or unknowingly, often for ornamental purposes.

This notice is part of the early detection, response, and monitoring plan for the **Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program** whose mission is to protect the region from the negative impacts of invasive species.

For more information contact the
Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program
518-576-2082, P.O. Box 65, Keene Valley, NY 12943
www.adkinvasives.com

PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE (*Lythrum salicaria*)

Origin: Europe and Asia

THE PROBLEM: While purple loosestrife is a beautiful plant in appearance, it has detrimental impacts on our local lands and waters. It outcompetes many native plants, displaces other desirable ornamentals, and can easily escape from gardens. It invades a variety of wet habitats including meadows, marshes, and the banks of rivers and reservoirs, disrupting water flow and degrading habitat and nutrition sources for rare species like the American bittern and bog turtle.

HOW TO IDENTIFY: Purple loosestrife grows 3-7 feet tall with vertical clusters of showy, magenta flowers from July to September. Linear shaped leaves grow oppositely along square stems.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: When the plants are flowering but have not yet developed seed heads, clip and bag flowers, then carefully dig out plants and roots. Put all plant pieces in plastic bags and take them to a sanitary landfill. Do not compost, as seeds survive and spread, and the plants decompose slowly. Repeated controls are often necessary. Herbicide can also be very effective - carefully follow regulations. Two native alternatives you can plant are blue vervain or aster.

Observer name: _____

Phone #: _____

Date species was observed: _____

Comments: _____

Thank you for your help in the fight against
invasive species!