

10 MOST UNWANTED PLANTS

IN BROWARD COUNTY

that have moved quietly and swiftly into our environmentally sensitive lands, disrupting the delicate balance and health of those natural systems.



Air Potato



Ear-Leaf
Acacia



Australian Pine



Lantana



Bischofia



Old World
Climbing Fern



Brazilian Pepper



Melaleuca



Carrotwood



Schefflera

PLEASE SEE THE BACK SIDE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE INTRUDERS.

<p>Air Potato (<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i>)</p> <p>Origin – Tropical Asia and East Africa Introduced – By the slave trade and reintroduced in 1905 for medical research.</p> <p>Description – Vigorously invasive, twining vine with heart-shaped leaves. Produces aerial bulbils (reproductive structures).</p> <p>Dispersed by humans.</p> <p>Comments – Both bulbils and subterranean tubers are toxic. Trimming wet vines may cause dermatitis. This plant has been labeled as one of the worst human-fostered invasions in the world.</p> <p>Present or historical in 10 natural areas.</p>	<p>Ear-Leaf Acacia (<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>)</p> <p>Origin – Australia, Papua, New Guinea, Indonesia Introduced – 1932 as an ornamental.</p> <p>Description – Tall, invasive evergreen tree with flowers in loose, yellow-to-yellow/orange spikes.</p> <p>Seeds dispersed by birds.</p> <p>Comments – Adapted to nutrient-poor soils.</p> <p>Present or historical in 21 natural areas.</p>
<p>Australian Pine (<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i> and <i>glauca</i>)</p> <p>Origin – Australia Introduced – Late 1800s as an ornamental and windbreak.</p> <p>Description – Large, invasive evergreen tree with shallow root system that is easily blown over during a wind storm or hurricane.</p> <p>Comments – Grows rapidly and provides dense litter accumulation, which prevents native plant recruitment and reduces or eliminates wildlife abundance.</p> <p>Seeds dispersed by wind, water, and birds, especially exotic parrots and parakeets.</p> <p>Present or historical in 19 natural areas.</p>	<p>Lantana (<i>Lantana camara</i>)</p> <p>Origin – West Indies Introduced – 1804 as an ornamental.</p> <p>Description – Hardy, invasive shrub that produces flowers of various colors.</p> <p>Comments – Hybridizes with the endangered native <i>Lantana depressa</i>. Widely recognized as highly toxic to grazing animals.</p> <p>On the Global Invasive Species Database (www.issg.org), this plant is #44 on the "100 of the World's Worst Invasive Species List."</p> <p>Dispersed by songbirds.</p> <p>Present or historical in 14 natural areas.</p>
<p>Bischofia (<i>Bischofia javanica</i>)</p> <p>Origin – Tropical Asia, Pacific Islands Introduced – Early 1900s as an ornamental.</p> <p>Description – Large, invasive evergreen tree with milky sap.</p> <p>Seeds dispersed by birds.</p> <p>Present or historical in 15 natural areas.</p>	<p>Old World Climbing Fern (<i>Lygodium microphyllum</i>)</p> <p>Origin – Eastern Asia Introduced – 1960s as an ornamental.</p> <p>Description – Very invasive, twining fern.</p> <p>Dispersed by wind, humans, animals, and vehicles.</p> <p>Present or historical in five natural areas.</p>
<p>Brazilian Pepper (<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>)</p> <p>Origin – Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay Introduced – 1890s as an ornamental.</p> <p>Description – Small, invasive evergreen tree that produces large amounts of red fruit.</p> <p>On the Global Invasive Species Database (www.issg.org), this plant is #84 on the "100 of the World's Worst Invasive Species List."</p> <p>Dispersed by birds.</p> <p>Present in all natural areas.</p>	<p>Melaleuca (<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>)</p> <p>Origin – Australia, New Guinea Introduced – 1906 as an ornamental.</p> <p>Description – Large, invasive evergreen tree with whitish, many-layered, peeling bark. One tree produces up to 20 million windborne seeds per year.</p> <p>On the Global Invasive Species Database (www.issg.org), this plant is #52 on the "100 of the World's Worst Invasive Species List."</p> <p>Dispersed by wind and water.</p>
<p>Carrotwood (<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>)</p> <p>Origin – Australia Introduced – 1968 as an ornamental.</p> <p>Description – Small, invasive evergreen tree that produces many seeds.</p> <p>Dispersed by birds.</p> <p>Present or historical in 20 natural areas.</p>	<p>Schefflera (<i>Schefflera actinophylla</i>)</p> <p>Origin – Northern Australia, New Guinea and Java Introduced – 1927 as an ornamental.</p> <p>Description – Medium-sized, invasive evergreen tree that produces a large, red, showy inflorescence at stem tips.</p> <p>Dispersed by birds.</p> <p>Present in all natural areas.</p>

All of the above plants are listed as Category I on the
Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council's List (www.fleppc.org).

Please help us protect the 3,200 acres of natural areas in Broward County by removing these seed sources from your property and replacing them with natives or other plants not known to be invasive.

For more information, visit
www.broward.org/Naturescape or www.broward.org/extension.