

## WHY INVASIVE PLANTS MATTER

- They displace native plants
  - reduces healthy food for wildlife
  - destroys native habitat and inhibits forest regeneration
  - threatens species through loss of food and habitat
  - decreases plant diversity, essential for healthy forests
- They smother/strangle trees and other plants
- They reduce water quality through increased erosion and decreased water filtration
- They alter soil chemistry and inhibit other plants from growing

Removing invasive species is a vital, and first step, management strategy for forest resilience amid many environmental stressors.

## INVASIVE NAME GAME

Can you unscramble these standardized terms for describing and communicating about invasive species? The shaded letters will become the name of a widely invasive tree on the Lamont campus that is the favored host to a colorful, non-native planthopper.

NAIEVT       T

ONITVNNAE        N     E

CITOEURDND        R     E

SHISBELTDEA     E         H

VVINASIE       V

CAUSISNNE         A     E

of

## INVASIVE PLANTS\* ON CAMPUS

- Garlic mustard
- Tree of heaven
- Burning bush
- Phragmites
- Multiflora rose
- Japanese barberry
- Japanese knotweed



Photo credit: Getty Images

Garlic mustard makes excellent pesto. Forage at will!

\*not a complete list

## I AM A ROCK, I AM AN ISLAND

It should surprise no one on a campus full of earth scientists that there is a nearby rock that bears the Lamont name. However, it is likely that the majority of Lamonters **are** surprised! This is the Lamont Rock, located in the Rockleigh Woods Sanctuary and Lamont Preserve in New Jersey. There was a plaque on it at one point. Do any Lamonters know what the plaque used to say?



Photo credit: Sheean Haley

Invasive Name Game Answers:

Native, Nonnative, Introduced, Established, Invasive, Nuisance