
Establishing and Enforcing a “Do-Not-Plant List” Within a Homeowners Association-Governed Community

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The Villages of Urbana community was established in 1999



Developer envisioned a community where homeowners are involved in the day-to-day management



Committees

- Committees were formed to address property management issues
 - The Grounds Committee was one of the first
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Process that lead to the Do-Not-Plant list

- Awareness of problem of non-native invasive plant species started with the Grounds Committee



Process that lead to the Do-Not-Plant list

- ❑ Forest Stewardship Plan
 - ❑ Confirmed that controlling invasive plants should be a priority
 - ❑ Volunteer training and invasive removal days
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Process that lead to the Do-Not-Plant list

- The Grounds Committee educated the HOA Board of Directors
 - The board put resources into clearing highly visible, badly infested areas
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Process that lead to the Do-Not-Plant list

- Next step was to stop residents from planting invasive species



The List

- Committee started with 114 species
 - Presented list of 30 species
 - Board asked for list of 10 species



VOU Do-Not-Plant List

- **Vines**

- | <u>Common Name</u> | <u>Scientific Name</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Climbing Euonymus,
Wintercreeper | Euonymus fortunei |
| English Ivy | Hedera helix |
| Oriental Bittersweet | Celastrus orbiculatus |
| Porcelain Berry | Ampelopsis brevipedunculata |

- **Shrubs**

- | <u>Common Name</u> | <u>Scientific Name</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Autumn Olive | Elaeagnus umbellata |
| Butterfly bush | Buddleja species |
| Japanese Barberry | Berberis thunbergii |
| Japanese Spiraea | Spiraea japonica |
| Winged burning bush | Euonymus alata |

- **Trees**

- | <u>Common Name</u> | <u>Scientific Name</u> |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Bradford Pear | Pyrus calleryana |
| Norway Maple | Acer platanoides |

Enforcement

- Homeowner must submit Design Review Application for all exterior modifications
 - Landscaping plans must include species
 - Design Review Committee reviews each application
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Enforcement

- Plans that contain forbidden plants are denied
 - The committee suggests alternative species
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Grandfather Clause

- Previously approved plans are not required to remove plants
 - If previously approved plant material dies, homeowner may install the same species
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Questions?

