

Report sightings.

If you suspect you have an exotic invasive pest or think you have an infestation, please contact the Clemson University Department of Plant Industry or your local Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service office.

For more information on invasive species, visit our website or find us on social media.







Who we are. What we do.

The Department of Plant Industry, a part of Regulatory Services in Clemson University's Public Service and Agriculture, helps prevent the introduction of new plant pests into South Carolina as well as the spread of existing plant pests to non-infested areas.

Plant pest surveys, inspections, quarantines, control and eradication programs are among the tools used to safeguard the state's agricultural and natural resources.

We help horticultural businesses - such as nurseries, greenhouse growers, transplant growers and turf grass producers - as well as farmers, agricultural industries and South Carolina consumers in shipping plant material intrastate, interstate and internationally.

Inspections and certification services help ensure that plants are pest-free, which is essential for movement of plant material to other states and foreign countries.

Department of Plant Industry
511 Westinghouse Rd.
Pendleton SC 29670

Phone: 864-646-2140

www.clemson.edu/invasives







In your own backyard.

Know your plants. Avoid growing and buying invasive plants. Be especially careful when buying plants on the internet or by mail order. Some plants that are illegal in this state are readily available for sale in other states.

Use native plants in your garden whenever possible. Eradicate any invasive plant that may already be in your garden, such as dodder.

Avoid "wildflower" seed mixtures unless clearly marked as to the exact species that they contain. Many of these are poorly labeled and may contain invasive plant species.



Be particularly careful with your water garden and aquarium plants and pets. Many of these water plants and snails are highly invasive and illegal in this state. Never dump your water, plants or pets into local waters.

Don't dispose of unwanted or diseased plants or plant parts in natural areas. Be sure to thoroughly compost all plant debris or dispose of it properly in the trash.

Boating and Fishing.

When fishing or boating, clean all equipment thoroughly, being especially vigilant for pests

like hydrilla shown here, before moving to a different body of water.

Do not transport animals, plants, insects, or water from one body of water to another. Use bait from the area you are fishing in.



Drain all water from

bait buckets and live wells onto land. This will ensure that pests will not contaminate a water body or the water supply.

Packing your bags.

Don't pack fruit or vegetables to take with you and don't bring back plants, fruits, vegetables or animals that may harbor insects or diseases.



Never try to smuggle plants or plant parts of any sort into or out of the United States.

Be informed. Be vigilant.



Do not move firewood! Use local firewood and leave unused firewood behind. Always burn firewood where it was purchased. Firewood harbors insects and diseases which may be spread from one location to another.

Emerald ash borer is one of many bark beetles that is commonly transported in firewood.

Hiking and Camping.

Clean boots and gear of any soil or plant material before going to a different area. Soil can harbor minute seeds or diseases that can infect native plants.

