

Illinois Regulations Regarding Invasive Plant Species

*Updated 12-1-2015

Individual invasive plant species are regulated in Illinois primarily through three regulations: the Illinois Exotic Weed Act and Illinois Injurious Species Rule (IDNR) and the Illinois Noxious Weed Law (IDOA). Collectively, these three rules restrict the sale and movement of sixty-two invasive plant species*.

*- Two plants listed on the Illinois Exotic weed act are actually genera, so any species within those genera are regulated.

Additionally, movement of weed seeds is regulated by the Illinois Seed Law (IDOA) and movement of aquatic plant material is regulated by the Illinois Boat Registration and Safety Act (IDNR).

Illinois Exotic Weed Act (525 ILCS 10/)

Hyperlink: <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1735&ChapAct=525>

Species listed:

<i>Oriental bittersweet</i>	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>
<i>Poison hemlock</i>	<i>Conium maculatum</i>
<i>Teasel</i>	<i>Dipsacus sp.</i>
<i>Russian olive</i>	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>
<i>Thorny olive</i>	<i>Elaeagnus pungens</i>
<i>Autumn olive</i>	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>
<i>Japanese knotweed</i>	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>
<i>Giant knotweed</i>	<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i>
<i>Bohemian knotweed</i>	<i>Fallopia xbohemica</i>
<i>Lesser celandine</i>	<i>Ficaria verna</i>
<i>Glossy buckthorn</i>	<i>Frangula alnus</i>
<i>Giant hogweed</i>	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>
<i>Spring honeysuckle</i>	<i>Lonicera fragrantissima</i>
<i>Japanese honeysuckle</i>	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>
<i>Amur honeysuckle</i>	<i>Lonicera maackii</i>
<i>Morrow's honeysuckle</i>	<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>
<i>Tatarian honeysuckle</i>	<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>
<i>Purple loosestrife</i>	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
<i>Kudzu</i>	<i>Pueraria montana</i>
<i>Saw-toothed buckthorn</i>	<i>Rhamnus arguta</i>
<i>Common buckthorn</i>	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>
<i>Dahurian buckthorn</i>	<i>Rhamnus davurica</i>
<i>Japanese buckthorn</i>	<i>Rhamnus japonica</i>
<i>Chinese buckthorn</i>	<i>Rhamnus utilis</i>
<i>Multiflora rose</i>	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>
<i>Saltcedar</i>	<i>Tamarix sp.</i>

General Description of Legislation:

It is illegal for anyone to buy, sell, distribute, or plant any parts of listed species without a permit. One exception is the commercial propagation of listed species intended for sale outside of the state of Illinois. Permits may be obtained for the sale of exotic olive (autumn and Russian) if the seeds are rendered unviable.

Illinois Noxious Weed Law (505 ILCS 100/)

Hyperlink: <http://www.agr.state.il.us/Laws/Regs/8iac220.pdf>

Species listed:

<i>Common ragweed*</i>	<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>
<i>Giant ragweed*</i>	<i>Ambrosia trifida</i>
* Within corporate limits of cities, villages and incorporated towns	
<i>Marijuana</i>	<i>Cannabis sativa</i>
<i>Musk thistle</i>	<i>Carduus nutans</i>
<i>Canada thistle</i>	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
<i>Kudzu</i>	<i>Pueraria montana</i>
<i>Perennial sowthistle</i>	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
<i>Sorghum†</i>	<i>Sorghum alnum</i>
† includes Johnsongrass X sorghum crosses with rhizomes	
<i>Johnsongrass</i>	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>

General Description of Legislation:

This law, administered by the Director of the Department of Agriculture of the State of Illinois, gives county governments the authority and responsibility to survey for, control, and govern the distribution of noxious weeds within their jurisdiction. The law also provides an avenue for the establishment of both a Weed Control Superintendent and Noxious Weed Control Fund within each county. Depending upon the situation, new infestations will be managed by the landowner, by the county and billed to the landowner, the county and landowner split the costs, or at the expense of the county.

Boat Registration and Safety Act (625 ILCS 45/5-23 new)

Hyperlink: <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=097-0850>

Species Listed:

All aquatic plants and/or animals excluding duckweed

General Description of Legislation:

No person may place or operate a vehicle, seaplane, watercraft, or other object of any kind in waters of this State if it has any aquatic plants or aquatic animals attached to the exterior of the vehicle, seaplane, watercraft, or other object (excluding duckweed).

Illinois Injurious Species Rule (17 IAC Sec. 805)

Hyperlink: <http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/017/01700805sections.html>

Plant Species Listed:

<i>Mosquito fern</i>	<i>Azolla pinnata</i>
<i>Flowering rush</i>	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>
<i>Mediterranean killer algae</i>	<i>Caulerpa taxifolia</i>
<i>Brazilian elodea</i>	
<i>or Brazilian waterweed</i>	<i>Egeria densa (syn. Elodea densa, Anacharis densa)</i>
<i>Anchored water hyacinth</i>	<i>Eichhornia azurea</i>
<i>Hydrilla</i>	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>
<i>European frogbit</i>	<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>
<i>Miramar weed</i>	
<i>or Indiana swampweed</i>	<i>Hygrophilia polysperma</i>
<i>Chinese waterspinach</i>	
<i>or swamp morning-glory</i>	<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>
<i>Yellow flag iris</i>	
<i>or tall yellow iris</i>	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>
<i>Oxygen weed</i>	
<i>or African elodea</i>	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>
<i>Asian marshweed/ambulia</i>	<i>Limnophila sessiliflora</i>
<i>Arrowleaf</i>	
<i>or false pickerelweed</i>	<i>Monochoria hastata</i>
<i>Heartshape</i>	
<i>or false pickerelweed</i>	<i>Monochoria vaginalis</i>
<i>Parrot feather</i>	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>
<i>Eurasian watermilfoil</i>	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
<i>Brittle naiad</i>	
<i>or brittle water nymph</i>	<i>Najas minor</i>
<i>Yellow floating heart</i>	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>
<i>Duck lettuce</i>	<i>Ottelia alismoides</i>
<i>Curlyleaf pondweed</i>	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>
<i>Arrowhead</i>	<i>Sagittaria sagittifolia</i>
<i>Giant salvinia</i>	<i>Salvinia auriculata</i>
<i>Giant salvinia</i>	<i>Salvinia biloba</i>
<i>Giant salvinia</i>	<i>Salvinia herzogii</i>
<i>Giant salvinia</i>	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>
<i>Exotic bur-reed</i>	<i>Sparganium erectum</i>
<i>Water soldier</i>	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>
<i>Water chestnut</i>	<i>Trapa natans</i>

General Description of Legislation:

This law, administered by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, does not only focus on weeds but also regulates injurious animals. It is illegal for any species on this list to be possessed, propagated, bought, sold, bartered or offered to be bought, sold, bartered, transported, traded, transferred or loaned to any other person or institution unless a permit is first obtained, except persons engaged in interstate transport for lawful commercial purposes who do not buy, sell, barter, trade, transfer, loan or offer to do so in Illinois may transport injurious species across Illinois without an injurious species permit from the Department.

Illinois Seed Law (505 ILCS 110)

Hyperlink: <http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/008/00800230sections.html>

Species Listed:

-Prohibited (Primary) Species

Field bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>
Hoary cress/whitetop	<i>Cardaria draba</i>
Johnsongrass*	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>
* includes <i>Sorghum alnum</i> and all seeds indistinguishable from Johnsongrass	
Russian knapweed	<i>Acroptilon repens</i> (syn. <i>Centaurea picris</i>)
Perennial sowthistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
Leafy spurge	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>
Canada thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Serrate tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>

-Restricted (Secondary) Species

Narrowleaf plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
Carolina horsenettle	<i>Solanum carolinense</i>
Queen Anne's lace	<i>Daucus carota</i>
Oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>
Curly dock	<i>Rumex crispus</i>
Dodders	<i>Cuscuta</i> sp.
Wild garlic	<i>Allium vineale</i>
Giant foxtail	<i>Setaria faberi</i>
Mustards	<i>Brassica juncea</i> , <i>B. kaber</i> (syn. <i>Sinapis arvensis</i>), and <i>B. nigra</i>
Wild onion/meadow garlic	<i>Allium canadense</i>
Bird rape	<i>Brassica campestris</i>
Quackgrass	<i>Elymus repens</i> (syn. <i>Agropyron repens</i>)

General Description of Legislation:

This law does not focus only on weed seeds, but includes sections on labeling, storing, and certifying agricultural seeds. It does prohibit the sale or transport of any seeds or seed mixtures that contain any seeds from prohibited (primary) species or that contains seeds from restricted (secondary) species in excess of the proportions of 1 weed seed to 1000 agricultural seeds. Agricultural seeds that contain greater than 3% weeds seeds and total inert matter (20% for bluegrasses, redtop, bentgrasses, orchardgrass, creeping red fescue, and smooth brome) cannot be sold in Illinois.