

## As a neighbor or property owner, you can play a special role in protecting the Conservancy.

This brochure covers seven invasive plants that land managers are targeting for control in the Conservancy.

### Invasive plants pose a threat to the Pheasant Branch Conservancy.

Invasive plants can disrupt or degrade diversity and function of an ecosystem resulting in simplified and less resilient plant communities.

### While land managers and volunteers spend time and resources to remove invasive plants from the Conservancy, their efforts can be hampered by neighboring properties that harbor the very species they are targeting.

Invasive plants can easily move across the landscape. Birds and other animals eat seeds and deposit them in their droppings. Wind carries fluffy and winged seeds great distances. Any time soil is moved by stormwater or construction projects, seeds and plant parts will also be moved. Even mowing can spread seeds and other plant parts.

### Check your property. If you find one of these six species remove it and replace it with one of the beautiful and beneficial alternative plants listed in this brochure.

A local plant nursery can also help you find an appropriate replacement plant.

**Thank you!**

## Resources for more information:

### Websites

#### Wisconsin DNR's website, [www.dnr.wi.us](http://www.dnr.wi.us).

Recommended search terms: Euonymus, Common buckthorn, Eurasian bush honeysuckle

**Wisconsin First Detector Network (WIFDN)**, [fyi.extension.wisc.edu/wifdn](http://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/wifdn). On the right side, click on "Access fact sheets and ID videos" and scroll down to Terrestrial Plants. Get fact sheets for Bird's-foot trefoil, Buckthorns, Bush honeysuckles/Japanese honeysuckle, Crown vetch

**The Invasive Plant Atlas of the United States**, [invasiveplantatlas.org](http://invasiveplantatlas.org). Click on the tabs (Grasses, Herbs/Forbs, Shrubs/Subshrubs). The plants are arranged alphabetically by scientific name. Click on the plant name for detailed information.

Grasses – *Miscanthus sinensis*

Herbs/Forbs – *Lotus corniculatus*, *Securigera varia*

Shrubs/Subshrubs – *Euonymus alatus*, *Euonymus europaeus*, *Lonicera* (various species), *Rhamnus cathartica*

**Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin**, [www.ipaw.org](http://www.ipaw.org).

### Books and Guides

**A Field Guide to Terrestrial Invasive Plants in Wisconsin**, Edited by Thomas Boos, Kelly Kearns, Courtney LeClair, Brendon Panke, Bryn Scriver, and Bernadette Williams, Wisconsin DNR, 2012

**Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants**, C. Colston Burrell, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2011

**Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest: An Illustrated Guide to Their Identification and Control**, Elizabeth Czarapata, University of Wisconsin Press, 2005

**UW-Madison Arboretum Native Plant Garden and Native Gardening Conference**, 1207 Seminole Highway, Madison, WI

# How can neighbors help protect the Pheasant Branch Conservancy?



The Friends of  
Pheasant Branch  
Conservancy

[pheasantbranch.org](http://pheasantbranch.org)





Burning bush/Spindle-tree  
*Euonymus alatus/E. europaeus*

- Two related deciduous shrubs, up to 20 ft tall
- Opposite leaves with finely toothed edges
- Bright fall color
- Prolific seed producers

✓ **Replace with:** *Aronia arbutifolia*,  
*Fothergilla major*, *Viburnum prunifolium*,  
*Rhus copallinum*, *Euonymus atropurpureus*



Common buckthorn  
*Rhamnus cathartica*

- Deciduous shrub or small tree, up to 25 ft tall
- Twigs often end in small short spines
- Leaves stay green into fall
- Female trees produce abundant black berries

✓ **Replace with:** *Carpinus caroliniana*,  
*Corylus americana*, *Rhamnus alnifolia*,  
*Thuja occidentalis*



Bird's-foot trefoil  
*Lotus corniculatus*

- Herbaceous perennial with sprawling growth
- Compound leaves with 5 leaflets
- Yellow flowers most of the summer
- Clusters of one-inch long seed pods

✓ In lawns, reseed with grass seed or white clover. In gardens, replace with *Helianthus strumosus*, *Zizia aurea*, *Baptisia bracteata*.



Eurasian bush honeysuckle  
*Lonicera species*

- Deciduous, multi-stemmed shrub, 6-12 ft tall
- Older stems have shaggy peeling bark
- Tubular flowers turn into red, orange, or yellow berries, arranged in pairs
- Spreads via abundant berries

✓ **Replace with:** *Amelanchier sp.*,  
*Sambucus canadensis*, *Sambucus pubens*,  
*Lonicera dioica*



Crown vetch  
*Securigera varia*

- Herbaceous perennial with trailing stems
- Compound leaves with 11-25 leaflets
- Pink to white flowers in spring to mid-summer
- Form dense patches, growing 2-6 ft long
- Spreads by vegetative rhizomes

✓ **Replace with:** *Phlox subulata*,  
*Lupinus perennis*, *Vicia americana*,  
*Tephrosia virginiana*



Chinese silvergrass  
*Miscanthus sinensis*

- Grass, 3-10 feet tall
- Over 50 ornamental forms sold in the US
- Showy flowers appear in Sept.-Oct.
- Bunch or clump forming
- Spreads by airborne seed

✓ **Replace with:** *Andropogon gerardii*,  
*Sorghastrum nutans*, *Panicum virgatum*