Knox County Invasive Shrub Replacement Program

Do you have invasive shrubs like Japanese Barberry and Amur Honeysuckle? With the Knox County Invasive Shrub Replacement Program, you can receive free native shrubs for removing invasive ones!

The Knox County Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) is happy to host another county wide invasive shrub replacement program in 2022 for homeowners, businesses, churches, schools, and other organizations. Remove invasive shrubs on your property and receive native bareroot shrubs to replace them! Replacement shrubs to choose from include Black Chokeberry, Arrowwood Viburnum, and American Hazelnut. Submit before and after pictures of the removal as well as number and species of invasive shrubs removed to Will Drews at willem.drews@in.nacdnet.net before the April 27th deadline to be eligible. Native shrubs will be available for pick up at the Knox County Goes Native event on Saturday, April 30th.

Invasive shrubs like Amur Honeysuckle are widespread throughout Knox County. They invade wooded areas and outcompete native plants and trees. Some generalist birds aid in invasive shrub dispersal by feeding on their bright berries, spreading these shrubs far and wide from where they were planted. These shrubs have minimal wildlife value compared to the native tree and shrub species that they replace.

For more information on the Knox County Invasive Shrub Program including the program guide, visit the Knox County CISMA website (http://knoxcountyswcd.com/kccisma/).

If you would like help identifying invasive shrubs, contact Will Drews, the Knox County SWCD Natural Resource Specialist, at willem.drews@in.nacdnet.net or by calling 812-882-8210 x 3408.
**Black Chokeberry (Aronia melanocarpa)**

- Small to medium size shrub
- Full sun to part shade
- Wet to well-drained soils
- 3 to 6 ft. in height
- 3 to 6 ft. spread
- Showy white flower clusters in late spring
- Black clusters of fruit in late summer
- Tolerates wet soils
- Attracts birds

**Arrowwood Viburnum (Viburnum dentatum)**

- Medium to large size shrub
- Full sun to part shade
- Dry to medium soils
- 6 to 10 ft. in height
- 6 to 10 ft. spread
- Showy clusters of white flowers in spring
- Bluish-black clusters of fruit in early summer
- Tolerates clay soils
- Attracts birds and butterflies

**American Hazelnut (Corylus americana)**

- Large size shrub
- Full sun to part shade
- Wet to dry soils
- 10 to 16 ft. in height
- 8 to 13 ft. spread
- Small clusters of flowers in spring
- Edible fruit (nuts) produced in late summer
- Tolerates clay soils
- Attracts birds