

Become an
**Invasive Species
DETECTIVE**



**Not
Wanted
Poster**

Make a **"NOT WANTED"** poster about an invasive species in your area. Include a picture or drawing of the invasive. Describe what the plant or animal looks like, where it came from, and how to prevent it from spreading further. Use your poster to let your friends and neighbors know how they can help stop the spread of invasive species.



An outdoor detective does many things. They observe the world around them. They investigate things they're curious about and record their observations. Become an invasive species detective and go a step further. Share your findings with others and work to combat invasive species. Here are some ideas to get you started. What else can you do?

- Watch for invasive species in your neighborhood. Learn what to be on the lookout for, including native look-alikes. If you find something suspicious, report it to DEC's Office of Invasive Species Coordination (see page 6).
- Become a Weed Warrior and help organized groups in your area to remove invasive plants.
- Don't spread invasive animals and plants. Don't move firewood. Clean and dry your equipment (boats, fishing gear, boots, etc.) if you've been in or near water.
- Use native plants in the garden instead of non-native species.
- Make a "Not Wanted" poster to teach others about invasive species.

For more information:

Alien Invaders: Species That Threaten Our World by Jane Drake and Ann Love (Tundra Books, Toronto, Canada, 2008)
Science Warriors: The Battle Against Invasive Species by Sneed B. Collard III (Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 2008)
"Intruders! New York's Battle to Stop the Spread of Invasive Species" by Leslie Surprenant, in *Conservationist*, April 2009, pg 9-13. (available at www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/53542.html)

Also visit our web page at www.dec.ny.gov/education/40248.html for links to websites about invasive species, including one with songs about how you can prevent their spread.

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David A. Paterson, Governor of New York State



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