



Maryland Green Purchasing Committee Approved Specification – Landscaping Plants

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT:

This document sets requirements for grasses, shrubs, trees, vines, and other plants used for landscaping on State grounds (including prohibitions of invasive plants, shrubs, and trees) with which Contractors are required to comply.

PRODUCTS COVERED UNDER THIS SPECIFICATION:

Grasses, Shrubs, Trees, Vines, and Other Plants Used for Landscaping



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**1. ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING:
LEGISLATION, STATUTES, AND REGULATIONS**

For Procurement Officers and Agencies

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (COMAR [21.11.07.09](#))

“All procurement agencies shall purchase environmentally preferable products and services unless purchasing environmentally preferable products and services would limit or supersede any requirements under any provision of law or result in the purchase of products and services that:

- (1) Do not perform adequately for the intended use;
- (2) Exclude adequate competition; or
- (3) Are not available at a reasonable price in a reasonable period of time.”

Procurement – Invasive Plant Species – Prohibition on Use of State Funds (State Finance and Procurement Article [§ 14-417\(a\)](#))

State funds may not be used to purchase or plant an invasive plant species for an outdoor project unless the plant species is commonly used for agricultural or horticultural purposes and is being maintained for the purposes of education or research.

“Each entity that receives State funding and each State Agency shall prioritize, whenever possible, the use of plants native to the State for every planting project.”

For Contractors, Bidders, and Offerors

Pollinator Protection Act of 2016 (Agriculture Article [§5-2A-02](#))

The sale and use of neonicotinoid pesticides is prohibited in the State, with certain exceptions.

2. PROHIBITIONS- INVASIVE PLANTS

The following plants are prohibited for the procurement or use in outdoor projects pursuant to Md. Code Ann., State Fin. and Proc. (SFP), § 14-417. This prohibition does not apply “if the plant species is commonly used for agricultural or horticultural purposes and is being maintained for the purposes of education or research.” SFP § 14-417(b).

INVASIVE PLANTS (PROHIBITED FROM PURCHASE)	
Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acer platanoides</i> **	Norway Maple
<i>Acorus calamus</i>	European Sweetflag, Calamus, Sweet-Flag
<i>Actinidia arguta</i>	Hardy Kiwi, Tara Vine
<i>Agrostis spp.</i>	Bent Grass

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INVASIVE PLANTS (PROHIBITED FROM PURCHASE)	
Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> **	Tree Of Heaven
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Carpet Bugleweed, Bugleweed, Ajuga
<i>Akebia quinata</i> **	Chocolate Vine
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i> **	Silk Tree
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i> **	Garlic Mustard
<i>Allium canadense</i>	Wild Onion
<i>Allium vineale</i>	Wild Garlic
<i>Ambrosia trifida</i>	Great Ragweed, Giant Ragweed, Horseweed
<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i> **	Porcelain Berry
<i>Anoda cristata</i>	Spurred Anoda
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Wild Chervil
<i>Aralia elata</i> *	Japanese Angelica Tree
<i>Artemisia stelleriana</i>	Oldwoman, Hoary Wormwood
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort
<i>Arthraxon hispidus</i>	Small Carpgrass, Joint-Head Arthraxon, Joint-Head Grass, Hairy Jointgrass
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed
<i>Bambusa vulgaris</i> **	Common Bamboo
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> */**	Japanese Barberry
<i>Brassica nigra</i>	Black Mustard
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	Smooth Bromegrass, Awnless Brome
<i>Bromus tectorum</i>	Cheatgrass
<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i> **	Paper Mulberry
<i>Buddleia davidii</i>	Butterfly Bush
<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>	Plumeless Thistle
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Musk Thistle
<i>Carex kobomugi</i>	Japanese Sedge, Japanese Sand Sedge, Asiatic Sand Sedge
<i>Carex macrocephala</i>	Largehead Sedge
<i>Caulepra taxifolia</i>	Marine Macroalga
<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i> **	Oriental Bittersweet, Asian Bittersweet
<i>Centaurea maculosa</i> **	Spotted Knapweed
<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	Yellow Star Thistle
<i>Centaurea spp.</i>	Knapweed
<i>Cirsium arvense</i> **	Canada Thistle
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Bull Thistle
<i>Clematis flammula</i>	Fragrant Clematis
<i>Clematis terniflora</i> **	Sweet Autumn Virginbower
<i>Codium fragile</i> ssp. <i>tomentosoides</i>	Codium

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INVASIVE PLANTS (PROHIBITED FROM PURCHASE)	
Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	European Lily Of The Valley
<i>Cornus kousa</i>	Kousa Dogwood
<i>Coronilla varia</i>	Crown-Vetch, Purple Crown-Vetch
<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	Pampas Grass
<i>Corydalis incisa</i> *	Incised Fumewort, Purple Keman
<i>Cuscuta spp.</i>	Dodder
<i>Cynanchum louiseae</i>	Louise's Swallow-Wort, Black Swallow-Wort
<i>Cynanchum louiseae</i> **	Black Swallow-Wort
<i>Cynanchum rossicum</i>	European Swallow-Wort, Pale Swallow-Wort
<i>Cynanchum rossicum</i> **	Pale Swallow-Wort
<i>Cyperus spp.</i>	Nutsedge
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> *	Scotch Broom
<i>Didymosphenia geminata</i>	Didymo, Rock Snot
<i>Egeria densa</i>	Brazilian Waterweed, Brazilian Elodea
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Water Hyacinth
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian Olive
<i>Elaeagnus umbellataumbellate</i> **	Autumn Olive
<i>Elodea densa</i>	Brazilian Elodea
<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>	Smallflower Hairy Willowherb
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	Broadleaf Helleborine, Broad-Leaved Helleborine, Helleborine Orchid
<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	Winged Euonymus
<i>Euonymus alatus</i> *	Burning Bbush, Winged Euonymus, Winged Spindletree, Winged Burning Bush
<i>Euonymus alatus</i> **	Winged Burning Bush
<i>Euonymus fortunei</i> ***	Winter Creeper
<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i>	Giant Knotweed, Sachaline
<i>Ficaria verna</i> */**	Fig Buttercup
<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Glossy Buckthorn, European Alder-Bucktho
<i>Geranium lucidum</i> *	Shining Geranium, Shining Cranesbill
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i> **	Ground Ivy
<i>Glossostigma cleistanthum</i>	Mudmats
<i>Glyceria maxima</i>	English Water Grass
<i>Gracilaria vermiculophylla</i>	Red Alga
<i>Hedera helix</i> **	English Ivy
<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	Atlantic Ivy
<i>Hemerocallis fulva</i>	Orange Daylily
<i>Hemerocallis fulva</i> **	Common Daylily
<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	Giant Hogweed

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Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i> **	Dame’s Rocket
<i>Hosta ventricosa</i>	Hosta, Blue Plantain-Lily
<i>Humulus japonicus</i> **	Japanese Hops
<i>Hydrilla verticillate</i> **	Hyrdilla, Waterthyme
<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>	European Frog-Bit, Common Frogbit
<i>Hygrophila polysperma</i>	East Indian Hygrophilla
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Common St. John's-Wort, Alien St. John's-Wort
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Hairy Cat's-Ear, Spotted Cat's-Ear, Common Cat's-Ear
<i>Ilex cornuta</i>	Chinese Holly
<i>Ilex crenata</i>	Japanese Holly
<i>Imperata brasiliensis</i>	Brazilian Cogongrass
<i>Imperata brevifolia</i>	California Cogongrass
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>	Cogongrass
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i> *	Yellow Flag Iris
<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	Dyer's Woad
<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	Goldenrain Tree
<i>Kyllinga gracillima</i>	Asiatic Greenhead Sedge, Pasture Spikesed
<i>Lamiastrum galeobolon</i>	Yellow Archangel
<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	Broadleaf Pepper-Grass
<i>Lespedeza cuneata</i> **	Sericea Lespedeza, Chinese Bushclover
<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i> */**	Blunt-Leaved Or Border Privet
<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i> **	Korean Privet, California Privet, Garden Privet, And Oval-Leaved Privet
<i>Ligustrum quihoui</i>	Waxyleaf Privet
<i>Ligustrum spp.</i>	Privet
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> **	Wild Privet, Common Privet, European Privet
<i>Lingustrum sinense</i> **	Chinese Privet
<i>Lonicera caprifolium</i>	Italian Honeysuckle, Italian Woodbine
<i>Lonicera japonica</i> **	Japanese Honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera maackii</i> *	Amur Honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera morrowii</i> **	Morrow’s Honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera spp.</i>	Bush Honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera standishii</i>	Standish Honeysuckle, Standish's Honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>	Tatarian Honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera xylostium</i>	Dwarf Hhoneysuckle
<i>Ludwigia grandiflora</i>	Large-Flower Primrose-Willow
<i>Lunaria annua</i>	Annual Honesty, Money Plant
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged Robin
<i>Lyngbya wollei</i>	Black Mat Alga

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Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Loosestrife, Creeping Jenny, Moneywort
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i> **	Purple Loosestrife
<i>Magnolia kobus</i>	Kobus Magnolia
<i>Mahonia bealei</i>	Leatherleaf Mahonia
<i>Malus hupehensis</i>	Tea Crabapple, Chinese Crabapple
<i>Malus spp.</i>	Flowering Crabapple
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	European Crabapple
<i>Microstegium vimineum</i> **	Japanese Stiltgrass
<i>Miscanthus sacchariflorus</i>	Maiden Frass, Amur Silvergrass
<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Eulalia, Japanese Silver Grass
<i>Morus alba</i> **	White Mulberry
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i> **	Parrot Feather
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i> **	Eurasian Watermilfoil
<i>Najas minor</i>	Brittle Waternymph, Brittle Naiad, European Naiad, Brittleleaf Naiad
<i>Nandina domestica</i> *	Heavenly Bamboo, Sacred Bamboo, Nandina
<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	Serrated Tussock
<i>Nitellopsis obtusa</i>	Starry Stonewort
<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	Yellow Floatingheart
<i>Ornithogalum nutans</i> **	Nodding Star Of Bethlehem
<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i> **	Sleepydick
<i>Osplismenus undulatifolius</i> **	Wavyleaf Basketgrass
<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>	Japanese Pachysandra, Pachysandra
<i>Papaver somniferum</i>	Opium Poppy
<i>Parthenocissus tricuspidata</i>	Boston Ivy
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i> **	Princess Tree
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	Crimson Fountain Grass, Fountaingrass
<i>Perilla frutescens</i> **	Perilla, Beefsteak Plant
<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	Amur Corktree, Phellodendron
<i>Phellodendron japonicum</i>	Japanese Corktree
<i>Philadelphus spp.</i>	Mock Orange
<i>Photinia villosa</i>	Oriental Photinia, Oriental Redtip
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Phragmites
<i>Phragmites australis</i> **	Common Reed
<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i> */**	Golden Bamboo
<i>Phyllostachys aureosulcata</i> *	Yellow Groove Bamboo
<i>Phyllostachys spp.</i>	Bamboo, Running Bamboos
<i>Pinus thunbergiana</i>	Japanese Black Pine

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Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Polygonum baldschuanicum</i>	Bukhara Fleece Flower
<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i> **	Japanese Knotweed
<i>Polygonum perfoliatum</i> , <i>Persicaria perfoliataperfoliate</i> **	Mile-A-Minute, Asiatic Tearthumb
<i>Populus canescens</i>	Gray Poplar
<i>Potamogeten crispus</i>	Curly Leaved Pondweed
<i>Prunus padus</i>	European Bird Cherry
<i>Pseudosasa japonica</i> **	Bamboos
<i>Pueraria montana var.lobata</i> **	Kudzu
<i>Pyracantha angustifolia</i>	Narrowleaf Firethorn
<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>	Scarlet Firethorn
<i>Pyracantha crenulata</i>	Nepales Firethorn
<i>Pyracantha koidzumii</i>	Formosa Firethorn, Taiwan Firethorn
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> *	Bradford Pear, Callery Pear
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> **	Callery Pear
<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	Sawtooth Oak
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Lesser Celandine
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	Common Buckthorn, European Buckthorn
<i>Rhamnus davurica</i>	Dahurian Buckthorn, Lance-Leaf Buckthorn
<i>Rhamnus frangula</i>	Glossy Buckthorn, Glossy False Buckthorn
<i>Rosa bracteata</i>	Macartney Rose
<i>Rosa gallica</i>	French Rose
<i>Rosa micrantha</i>	Smallflower Sweetbrier Rose
<i>Rosa multiflora</i> **	Multiflora Rose
<i>Rubus armeniacus</i>	Himalaya Blackberry
<i>Rubus laciniatus</i>	Evergreen Blackberry, Cutleaf Blackberry
<i>Rubus parvifolius</i>	Japenese Blackberry, Three-Leaf Blackberry, Western Thimbleberry
<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i> **	Wineberry
<i>Salvinia minima</i>	Common Salvinia
<i>Salvinia molesta</i> **	Giant Salvinia
<i>Schoenoplectus mucronatus</i> **	Bog Bulrush
<i>Setaria spp.</i>	Foxtail
<i>Sicyos angulatus</i>	Oneseed Bur Cucumber, Burcucumber
<i>Solanum carolinense</i>	Horse Nettle
<i>Sorghum bicolor</i>	Sorghum, Shatter Cane, Wild Cane
<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	Johnson Grass
<i>Spiraea japonica</i>	Japanese Spiraea
<i>Spiraea japonica</i> **	Japanese Meadowsweet

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INVASIVE PLANTS (PROHIBITED FROM PURCHASE)	
Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	Water Soldier
<i>Styrax japonicus</i>	Japanese Snowbell
<i>Tamarix parviflora</i>	Smallflower Tamarisk, Tamarisk
<i>Taxus cuspidata</i>	Japanese Yew
<i>Tetradium daniellii</i> *	Bee Bee Tree
<i>Thymus praecox</i>	Creeping Thyme
<i>Trapa natans</i> **	Water Chestnut
<i>Triadica sebifera</i>	Chinese Tallow
<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	Narrowleaf Cattail, Narrow-Leaved Cattail
<i>Urtica dioica</i> **	European Stinging Nettle
<i>Viburnum dilatatum</i> , <i>V. plicatum</i> , and <i>V. sieboldii</i>	Linden Viburnum, Doublefile Viburnum, Japanese Snowball, Siebold Viburnum
<i>Viburnum dilatatum</i> **	Linden Viburnum
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	European Cranberrybush, Guelder Rose
<i>Viburnum plicatum</i>	Doublefile Viburnum, Japanese Snowball
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Garden Vetch, Common Vetch, Spring Vetch
<i>Vinca major</i>	Vinca Vine
<i>Vinca minor</i> **	Common Periwinkle, Lesser Periwinkle, Periwinkle
<i>Vincetoxicum nigrum</i>	Black Swallowwort
<i>Vitex rotundifolia</i>	Roundleaf Chastetree, Beach Vitex
<i>Wisteria floribunda</i> */**	Chinese Wisteria
<i>Wisteria formosa</i>	Wisteria Hybrids
<i>Wisteria sinensis</i> */**	Japanese Wisteria
<i>Wisteria x formosa</i> *	Floribunda X Sinensis Hybrid
<i>Xanthium strumarium</i>	Cocklebur
<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Japanese Zelkova

This list was derived from the following resources:

[Maryland Invasive Species Council](#)

[Maryland Department of Natural Resources](#)

[Maryland Department of Agriculture](#)

[National Park Service's and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Plant Invaders of Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas](#)

[University of Maryland](#)

* Tier 1 and Tier 2 plants identified by the Department of Agriculture pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Agriculture § 9.5-301 (as of June 2020) can also be found [here](#).

** Invasive plants as identified by the [National Park Service's and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Plant Invaders of Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas](#).

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3. Minimum Requirements for the Selection of Landscaping Plants

The Contractor must use plants, shrubs, trees, and vines that are native to the State of Maryland for any and all landscaping projects. Further, the installation of invasive plants is prohibited; *see Section 2 of the Maryland Green Purchasing Committee Approved Specification for Landscaping Plants*. This prohibition, however, does not apply to situations where the plant species is commonly used for agricultural or horticultural purposes **and** is being maintained for the purposes of education or research.

The Contractor shall use the following sources to correctly identify plants native to the State of Maryland:

- [Chesapeake Bay Native Plant Center](#);
- Lady Bird Johnson’s Wildflower Center- [Recommended Plants for Maryland](#);
- Maryland Native Plant Society’s Publication on [Landscaping with Native Plants](#);
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Chesapeake Bay Field Office, [Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping](#); and
- University of Maryland Extension’s [Recommended Native Plants for Maryland](#).

4. ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING LANGUAGE

Instruction to Procurement Officers: Please include the following language in your solicitation if it does not already exist.

A. On Environmentally Preferable Purchasing:

The State of Maryland is committed to purchasing environmentally preferable products and services (EPPs). Maryland’s State Finance & Procurement Article §14-410 defines environmentally preferable purchasing as “the procurement or acquisition of goods and services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing goods or services that serve the same purpose.”

Accordingly, Bidders/Offerors are strongly encouraged to offer EPPs to fulfill this contract, to the greatest extent practicable.

B. On Maryland’s Green Purchasing Reporting Requirements:

The State of Maryland requires, at a minimum, from the Contractor annual sales data over the life of this contract; the State also reserves the right to request quarterly sales data over the life of this contract.

The report shall include, at a minimum, details about the third-party sustainability certifications and other environmental attributes of products and services sold on this price agreement per the contract specifications.



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To facilitate consistent reporting on this contract, the Contractor will be provided with a VENDOR GREEN SALES REPORT template from the Green Purchasing Committee (GPC), the Office of State Procurement (OSP) or the Department of General Services (DGS).

C. On Environmental Claims

All environmental benefit claims made by the Contractor concerning products or services offered on this contract must be consistent with the [Federal Trade Commission's Guidelines for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims](#).