

Abington Township Invasive Plant Management Plan

improving ecological function in township park properties



Invasive Plant Management Plan

Abington Township, Montgomery County, PA

In 2025, Abington Township initiated an invasive plant management plan across 23 township parks to guide management of invasive plant species and to help restore native ecosystems.

This plan assessed the current conditions of invasive plants in each of the parks, establishing priorities and providing recommendations for restoring native plant communities. It also looked at how to establish an invasive plant management program to guide the township's future efforts.

Invasive plants are aggressive species introduced from other regions that pose a significant threat to our natural areas. They overrun the native plants that have evolved in our area and best support our local wildlife. By outcompeting our native plants, invasive species reduce plant diversity. They ignore manmade boundaries, spreading from property to property.

Invasive plants also create economic costs when they overrun infrastructure, damage trees along roads, and create hazards that need to be managed. They are also more costly to manage as they become more pervasive and established. Removing invasive plants and restoring areas with native plants creates healthy habitats that can support our insects, birds, and other wildlife—benefiting both wildlife and people.



PROJECT SNAPSHOT

services: township-wide invasive species management plan

client: Abington Township

key partners: Shade Tree Commission, Environmental Advisory Council

key recommendations

- Focus management on the most aggressive invasive species.
- Manage existing plantings.
- Manage deer population.
- Begin/continue management in priority parks.
- Coordinate actions among township commissions to improve effectiveness.
- Incorporate restoration and maintenance into all invasive plant management projects.

