

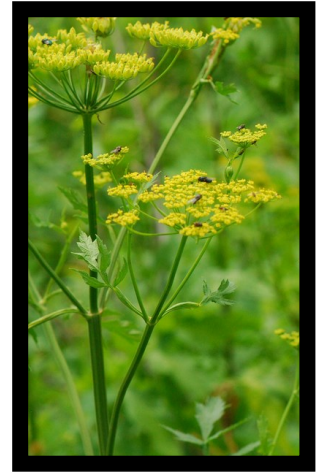
Invasive or Native

An Oneida County Field Guide

Giant Hogweed

Wild Parsnip

Thistles



Giant Hogweed *Heracleum mantegazzianum*

Invasive—Prohibited—Hazardous

Height: 10-15'

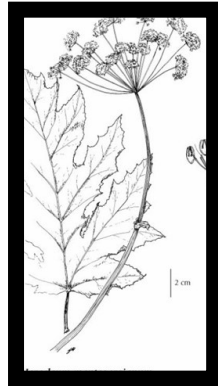
Flower: White flowers forming an **umbrella shape up to 2.5 Ft. wide.**

Stems: Hollow, **hairy, dark reddish purple.**

Leaves: **Deeply palmately cut.** Up to 5' wide with a spotted stalk

Blooms : May—July

Occupies the same habitat as native cow parsnip.



Cow Parsnip *Heracleum lanatum*

Native

Height: 3-10'

Flower: White flowers forming a **flat top up to 1 Ft. wide.**

Stems: Hollow, **slightly hairy, mostly green.**

Leaves: Soft hairs, 3 parted, palmate.

Blooms : June—July

Occupies the same habitat as invasive giant hogweed.



Wild Parsnip *Pastinaca sativa*

Invasive—Restricted—Hazardous

Height: 2-5' Pedicles twisted around stem

Flower: Yellow flowers forming clusters with a flat top

Leaves: **Pinnately divided into 5-15 lobes.** Lower Leaves: up to 45cm long and 15cm across. Upper Leaves: small, alternate, pinnate leaves. Both leaves with saw-toothed edges.

Blooms : June-July

Occupies the same habitat as native golden alexanders



Golden Alexanders *Zizia Aurea*

Native

Height: 1-3'

Flower: Yellow, flat topped flowers forming an umbel

Leaves: Basal leaves twice 3 parted, upper leaves 3 parted. About 8 cm long and 5 cm across

Blooms : May—July

Occupies the same habitat as invasive wild parsnip



Bull Thistle *Cirsium vulgare*

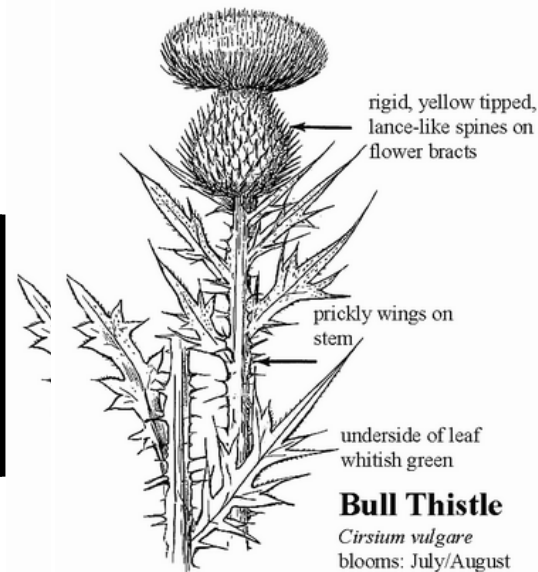
Invasive– Not regulated

Height: Usually 3-5 feet tall.

Flower: Purple to pink gumdrop shaped flowers that are 1-2 inches wide. Each bract is tipped with a spine.

Leaves: 3-6 inches long, deeply lobed with narrow teeth, very hairy.

Blooms: July– September



Musk Thistle *Carduus nutans*

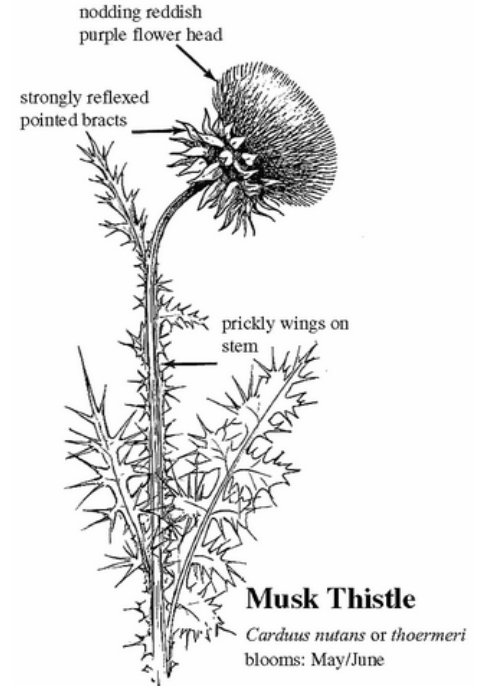
Invasive-Restricted

Height: 3-5 feet tall.

Flower: Purple to pink disc shaped heads that are 1-3 inches wide.
Flower heads commonly droop.

Leaves: Silvery midrib and edges, coarsely lobed with waxy surface and spine at the tip of each lobe.

Blooms: May—June (sometimes August)



Plumeless Thistle *Carduus acanthoides*

Invasive-Restricted

Height: 1-5 feet tall.

Flower: Small pink to purple rounded heads that are 0.3-1 inches wide, small bracts with sharp spines.

Leaves and Stem: Stem covered in leaf-like spines. Leaves are hairy underneath and blend into the stem.

Blooms in June-August

flowers small,
(3/4 in.) erect in
small clusters

bracts narrow

Curl or Plumeless Thistle

Carduus acanthoides
blooms: June/August

prickly wings
on stem



Left to right: Bull, Musk, and Plumeless leaves



Canada Thistle *Cirsium arvense*

Invasive-Restricted

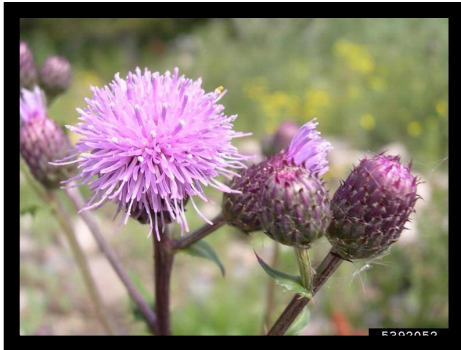
Height: 1-3 feet tall.

Flower: Small, clustered pale lilac flowers less than one inch wide.

Leaves and Stem: Leaves wavy, spiny, and lobed. Stems smooth and spineless.

Forms clonal colonies from underground lateral roots.

Blooms in: July—September



Canada Thistle
Cirsium arvense
blooms: July/September



European Marsh Thistle *Cirsium palustre*

Invasive-Restricted

Height: 4-5 feet tall.

Flower: Clusters of 12 or more spiny purple flower heads that are up to 0.75 inches wide, bracts with spineless tips.

Leaves: 6-8 inches long, deeply lobed with spines along the edges, hairy underside.

Blooms: June—July

Occupies the same habitat as native swamp thistle.



Swamp Thistle *Cirsium muticum*

Native

Height: 5 feet tall but can be up to 8 feet tall.

Flower: Deep purple to pink heads reaching 1.5 inches wide.

Leaves: Leaves are deeply lobed, nearly spineless, and often widely spaced on the stem. Lower leaves can be up to 8 inches long by 3 inches wide.

Blooms: July—October

Occupies the same habitat as invasive European marsh thistle.



Field Thistle *Cirsium discolor*

Native

Height: 3 to 7 feet tall.

Flower: pale pink heads reaching 1.5 inches wide.

Leaves: Leaves are large, spiny, and firm with a whitish fuzz on the underside of the leaf.

Blooms: July—October

Occupies similar habitat as the invasive Bull thistle.



Tall Thistle *Cirsium altissimum*

Native

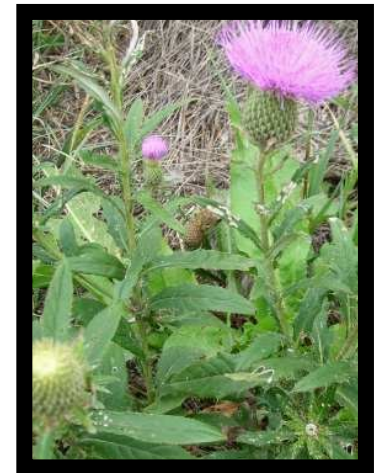
Height: 3 to 10 feet tall

Flower: Pink to purple heads reaching 1.25 inches wide.

Leaves: Leaves have spiny teeth or shallow lobes. Leaves have whitish fuzz on underside. Widely Branched.

Blooms: July—October

Occupies the same habitat as invasive Canada thistle.





**LAND & WATER CONSERVATION
DEPARTMENT**

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