

# Invasive Species – Activity #12



## TEKS:

- 5.1 A
- 5.9 A, C
- 6.1 A
- 6.2 A, B, D, E
- 6.12 E, F
- 7.1 A
- 7.2 A, B, C, D, E
- 7.10 A, B
- 8.1 A
- 8.11 A, B

## Resources:

- [www.texasinvasives.org/](http://www.texasinvasives.org/)
- <http://cswgcin.nbii.gov/portal/server.pt>
- [www.invasivespecies.org/resources/](http://www.invasivespecies.org/resources/)
- [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/wildscapes/guidance/plants/invasives/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/wildscapes/guidance/plants/invasives/)
- [www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/unitedstates/tx.shtml](http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/unitedstates/tx.shtml)
- [www.nwf.org/Wildlife/pdfs/TexasInvasives.pdf](http://www.nwf.org/Wildlife/pdfs/TexasInvasives.pdf)

## Texas Overview:

Texas is a big state and invasive species can be found almost everywhere. With the different ecosystems across the state, a variety of invaders have had a chance to move in and prosper — and it's caused big problems in many areas.

You can find out how to detect these invasive species by becoming a citizen scientist or a voyager. All it requires is training provided by the Texas Invasive Plant and Pest Council (the web site is the first one listed under resources). The council offers workshops and online training so you can learn about the invasive species in your area. Once you're trained, you can observe and report what you see.

Below is a table detailing the estimated invasive species in Texas. The numbers are changing due to the reporting techniques and variety of reporting agencies.

Organism	Projected Number of Invading Species
Land plants	67
Wetland/aquatic plants	12
Mammals	10
Birds	4
Fish	7
Insects	11
Mollusks and Crustaceans	11

<http://www.nwf.org/Wildlife/pdfs/TexasInvasives.pdf>

During the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, invasive species cost Texans almost \$100 billion dollars. But there are some tips to help you fight against invasive species. Do your research before landscaping, be a smart consumer and get involved. Just those simple steps can help prevent extinctions, protect fragile ecosystems and give native Texas plants and animals a better chance to survive and prosper.