

Episode: Invaders Among Us

EXPLORING NORTH CAROLINA



USEFUL VOCABULARY

adelgid
blight
botany
deciduous
detritus
displace
ecosystem
evergreen
exotic
forest productivity
fungus
genetic diversity
horticulturist
hybrid
invasive
native
non-native
ornamental
piscivorous
predator
seasonal cycle
sediment
spawn

CHAPTER 2 (0:00–6:31)

1. List some common North Carolina birds that are non-native invasive species and describe where they came from and when.
2. Why is it a problem for non-native birds to take up residence in North Carolina?
3. How and why were non-native plants brought to this country?
4. Why are non-native invasive plants so successful in spreading?
5. List some non-native plant species that are considered to be very invasive and the problems associated with these species.
6. List some non-native plant species that are not very invasive and are an asset to our landscapes? Name their places of origin.
7. List some non-native animal species and describe why they are essential or important.

CHAPTER 3 (6:31–11:10)

8. What is North Carolina's only native freshwater trout?
9. What does it mean to say a plant is non-invasive?

CHAPTER 4 (11:10–13:28)

10. Why do so many of our invasive plants come from Japan?
11. What is chestnut blight? What harmful effects has it had?
12. How did pest species such as the balsam woolly adelgid and diseases such as the chestnut blight spread to our native ecosystems?
13. What tree species have been infested with balsam woolly adelgids? What ecosystem has suffered because of the insect?

CHAPTER 5 (13:28–18:07)

14. When were carp brought to the United States and for what purpose?
15. What problems do carp cause?
16. What are some catfish species that have invaded North Carolina waters? Why are they a problem?
17. What is the most aggressive invasive fish?
18. How large can a flathead catfish get?

CHAPTER 6 (18:07–23:41)

19. Why is it so easy to “go native” when landscaping?
20. What non-native species would we hate to lose in North Carolina?