

Invasive Species Buy-Back FAQ

Can I participate if I am not a Medina County resident?

Due to limited funding we are only able to accommodate Medina County residents at this time. Reach out to your county SWCD to see if they offer a buy-back program or if another watershed group in your community offers an exchange program.

However, non-county residents are welcome to attend our informational presentations and volunteer events if they wish to learn more about invasive species.

What if I need help identifying my invasive plant?

It is important to be sure you are removing an invasive plant so that you can participate. If you are unsure of the plant species, before removing, you may contact Kellie at kdocherty@medinaco.org for any help identifying. Be sure to 2-3 send clear ID photos of the leaves and bark of the invasive tree or shrub.

(Do not send submission to this email, they will not be accepted).

What invasive plants are accepted for the program?

Any invasive tree or shrub found on the ODA invasive plant list will be accepted, the complete list can be found on the Medina Invasive Species Buy-Back homepage.

Will my Bradford Pear or Cleveland Pear be accepted?

Absolutely! The Cleveland or Bradford pears are cultivars of the callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*) and are also considered highly invasive.

When should I remove my invasive plant?

For the best results (especially if using herbicide on the stump) wait until the summer to remove your invasive plant. Invasive plants are often the first to emerge come spring, so be sure to flag off any invasive plants you wish to remove during that time. Once you are sure the plant is invasive, remove during the summer months. Waiting until summer also ensures you will be able to participate in the program when the official submission instructions are available. (June)

Can I get more than one species if I remove multiple invasive species?

Due to limited availability we are only able to do one trade in per household. However, if on pick-up day we have extra trees and you have removed multiples, you will be offered additional replacement species. (Up to 3 species max)

How large are the trees that I will be getting in exchange for removing an invasive tree or shrub?

Native shrubs can be anywhere from 3-4ft and native trees are at least 4ft.

What if I cannot make the pick-up date?

Find a family, friend, or neighbor who is willing to pick up your tree or shrub for you. If you cannot find anyone who can help you, contact Kellie by calling 330-722-9321 to arrange a different pick up date.

Can I participate if I'm in an HOA?

Yes, though you should first check with your HOA regarding rules for removing large trees or shrubs. If they permit doing so, you may participate! We have had a number of community members who live in an HOA remove their callery pear tree or other invasive plants for the program.

Can my business participate?

If your business is in Medina County, Yes! However, we have a limited amount of trees set aside for businesses, be sure to contact Kellie by calling 330-722-9321 to confirm we have trees available for your business to participate.