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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Hamilton County Offers Free Native Plants After Invasive Plant Removal**

Noblesville, IN – The Hamilton County Invasives Partnership (HIP) and the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) are teaming up to help residents restore their landscapes—one tree at a time. Through the **Invasive Species Trade-In Program**, property owners who remove invasive plants from their Hamilton County properties are eligible to receive free native plants from the SWCD's fall native sale.

"86% of woody invasive plants in Indiana have been introduced through landscaping," said Claire Lane, Urban Conservationist with the SWCD. "This program rewards homeowners who take action to remove these problem plants and replace them with beneficial natives."

**How It Works:** Homeowners must identify and remove invasive species from their landscape, properly dispose of plant material and document their efforts with photos and a simple online application.

The program prioritizes the removal of commonly used landscape invasives such as: Callery Pear (including Bradford, Cleveland Select, and other cultivars), Burning Bush, Japanese Barberry, and Norway Maple but other invasive species listed on the Indiana Invasive Species Council's Official Invasive Plant List are also eligible.

Complete applications are due **September 1, 2025**. Applicants will receive a confirmation email by **September 9** with a discount code to redeem their free native plant(s) through the SWCD's fall sale. Orders must be placed by **September 21**, with plant pickup scheduled for **October 2–3** in Noblesville.

Program details, application forms, and FAQs are available at [www.hcinvasives.org/trade](http://www.hcinvasives.org/trade).

#### **About the Partners:**

The **Hamilton County Invasives Partnership (HIP)** is a collaborative initiative aimed at managing and preventing the spread of invasive species in Hamilton County. The **Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District** provides technical assistance, education, and resources to protect and improve local soil and water resources.

**Don't miss this opportunity to improve your landscape and community—one plant at a time.**

If you would like more information on this topic, please contact Claire Lane at 317-773-2181 or [claire.lane@hamiltoncounty.in.gov](mailto:claire.lane@hamiltoncounty.in.gov).