Virginia Invasive Plant Sign Kit

Va. Code § 3.2-3801.1 (effective January 1, 2027) + VDACS signage guidance

SAMPLE: checklist + 3 of 39 signs + blank multi-plant sign. Checked Oct 30, 2026.

Compliance checklist (from the statute and VDACS guidance only)

[ ] **1. Scope:** Do you sell, for outdoor use, any plant on the 39-species list (Va. Code § 3.2-3801.1(A))? Check cultivars and varieties too (e.g., all *Vinca major* varieties). True hybrids, crosses and different species are exempt (e.g., *Spiraea x vanhouttei*).

[ ] **2. Effective date:** Signs must be up by **January 1, 2027**.

[ ] **3. Sign format:** Use the VDACS template sign (Nursery Inspection page) OR your own design containing items 4-8.

[ ] **4. Heading:** Exact statement: “The following plant is an invasive species:”

[ ] **5. Plant names:** Every listed invasive on that display, by **scientific AND common name** - including displays where invasives are mixed with non-invasives.

[ ] **6. Education statement:** Exact VDACS statement: “Invasive plants may proliferate and cause harm by displacing native plants, reducing wildlife habitat, and altering natural processes. They may require extra management to reduce spread and impact. You may want to ask about alternative plant choices.”

[ ] **7. QR code:** QR code linking to DCR’s Invasive Plant Species list: dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invspinfo

[ ] **8. URL:** The DCR URL printed on the sign: https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invspinfo

[ ] **9. Size:** Printed at **8.5 x 11 in. minimum**, in a font customers can easily read.

[ ] **10. Placement:** In close proximity to **each** display, including overhead displays such as hanging baskets; easily read. Same plant at several spots = a sign at each.

[ ] **11. Upkeep:** Replace any sign that is illegible or damaged.

[ ] **12. Extra info:** Allowed: you may add your own information (e.g., native alternatives, store branding).

[ ] **13. Penalty:** If signage is missing, the Commissioner issues a stop-sale order and tags the plant until the sign is posted (Va. Code § 3.2-3801.1(B)).

[ ] **14. Questions:** VDACS Office of Plant Industry Services, 804-786-3515.

SAMPLE

Sources: Va. Code § 3.2-3801.1, law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title3.2/chapter38/section3.2-3801.1/ (2025 Acts cc. 393, 409) · VDACS, *Guidance on Invasive Plant Species Signage Requirements at Retail Establishments*, vdacs.virginia.gov/pdf/invasive-plant-species-signage-requirements-guidelines.pdf · VDACS Nursery Inspection (template signs), vdacs.virginia.gov/plant-industry-services-nursery-inspection.shtml · Common names: VA DCR Invasive Plant Species List. Native alternatives panel is optional extra information, not a legal requirement. Not legal advice; PlantLegit is independent of VDACS and DCR.

[YOUR STORE NAME]

The following plant is an invasive species:

Japanese Barberry

Berberis thunbergii

Invasive plants may proliferate and cause harm by displacing native plants, reducing wildlife habitat, and altering natural processes. They may require extra management to reduce spread and impact. You may want to ask about alternative plant choices.

SAMPLE

Virginia DCR: Invasive Plant Species
Scan the code or visit:
https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invspinfo

Ask us about Virginia native alternatives

- **Inkberry** *Ilex glabra*
- **Fragrant sumac** *Rhus aromatica*
- **Black chokeberry** *Aronia melanocarpa*

Native swaps (optional extra info, scan):
https://plantlegit.com/instead/japanese-barberry/virginia/

Required wording per VDACS guidance under Va. Code § 3.2-3801.1 (eff. Jan 1, 2027). Print at 8.5 x 11 in. or larger. PlantLegit is not affiliated with VDACS or DCR.

[YOUR STORE NAME]

The following plant is an invasive species:

Nandina

Nandina domestica

Invasive plants may proliferate and cause harm by displacing native plants, reducing wildlife habitat, and altering natural processes. They may require extra management to reduce spread and impact. You may want to ask about alternative plant choices.

SAMPLE

Virginia DCR: Invasive Plant Species
Scan the code or visit:
https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invspinfo

Ask us about Virginia native alternatives

- **Inkberry** *Ilex glabra*
- **Virginia sweetspire** *Itea virginica*
- **American beautyberry** *Callicarpa americana*

Native swaps (optional extra info, scan):
https://plantlegit.com/instead/nandina/virginia/

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[YOUR STORE NAME]

The following plant is an invasive species:

Periwinkle

Vinca minor

Invasive plants may proliferate and cause harm by displacing native plants, reducing wildlife habitat, and altering natural processes. They may require extra management to reduce spread and impact. You may want to ask about alternative plant choices.

SAMPLE

Virginia DCR: Invasive Plant Species
Scan the code or visit:
https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invspinfo

Ask us about Virginia native alternatives

Our staff can suggest a native plant for the same spot.

Native swaps (optional extra info, scan):
https://plantlegit.com/states/va/

Required wording per VDACS guidance under Va. Code § 3.2-3801.1 (eff. Jan 1, 2027). Print at 8.5 x 11 in. or larger. PlantLegit is not affiliated with VDACS or DCR.

[YOUR STORE NAME]

The following plant is an invasive species:

(Multi-plant display: list EVERY listed invasive on this display, scientific and common name.)

Invasive plants may proliferate and cause harm by displacing native plants, reducing wildlife habitat, and altering natural processes. They may require extra management to reduce spread and impact. You may want to ask about alternative plant choices.

SAMPLE

Virginia DCR: Invasive Plant Species
Scan the code or visit:
https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/invspinfo

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