

Family	Species	Common Name
Fabaceae (Bean)	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> L.	Black locust
Rosaceae (Rose)	<i>Rosa micrantha</i> Borrer ex. Small	Smallflower sweetbrier
Polygonaceae (Knotweed)	<i>Rumex crispus</i> L.	Curly dock
Poaceae (Grass)	<i>Setaria pumila</i> (Poiret) Roem. & Schult.	Yellow foxtail
Caryophyllaceae (Carnation)	<i>Silene latifolia</i> Poiret	Bladder campion
Solanaceae (Nightshade)	<i>Solanum cf. dulcamara</i> L.	Climbing nightshade
Solanaceae (Nightshade)	<i>Solanum</i> sp.	Nightshade
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Solidago canadensis</i> L.	Canada goldenrod
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Solidago rugosa</i> Miller	Wrinkleleaf goldenrod
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i> L.	Common sowthistle
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> F.H. Wigg.	Common dandelion
Anacardiaceae (Sumac)	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i> (L.) Kuntze	Eastern poison ivy
Fabaceae (Bean)	<i>Trifolium campestre</i> Schreb.	Field clover
Fabaceae (Bean)	<i>Trifolium pratense</i> L.	Red clover
Fabaceae (Bean)	<i>Trifolium repens</i> L.	White clover
Ulmaceae (Elm)	<i>Ulmus americana</i> L.	American elm
Ulmaceae (Elm)	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> Jacq.	Chinese elm
Ulmaceae (Elm)	<i>Ulmus rubra</i> Muhl.	Slippery elm
Fabaceae (Bean)	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common vetch
Violaceae (Violet)	<i>Viola sororia</i> Willd.	Common blue violet
Vitaceae (Grape)	<i>Vitis</i> sp.	Grape
Ulmaceae (Elm)	<i>Zelkova serrata</i> (Thunb.) Makino	Japanese zelkova

*Not listed are 23 unidentified species.

SUMMARY OF SPECIES CHARACTERISTICS

- A total of 117 species of herbaceous plants were identified within a 9-block area; 19 species of trees were found.
- Lots showed a high abundance and diversity of the Poaceae (11 species), Asteraceae (18 species) and Fabaceae (8 species) families. The top three species are perennial grasses, *Cynodon dactylon* (L.) Pers., *Dactylis glomerata* L., and *Schedonorus arundinaceus* (Schreb.) Dumort.
- Of the identified species, 31% were native, while 69% were classified as invasive.
- Of the invasive species, 76% were located either primarily or exclusively in the building footprint, while 24% were located either primarily or mostly in the relic backyards. Of the native species, this trend was reversed with 46% occurring primarily or exclusively in the building footprint and 55% occurring in the relic backyard.

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Contact: BES-facilitator@caryinstitute.org

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BALTIMORE VACANT LOTS: PLANT SPECIES INVENTORY



VACANT LOT RESEARCH 2009



WHAT IS A VACANT LOT?

Cities and metropolitan areas have a rich mosaic of vegetation habitats within the urban ecosystem. Ecologists have recognized many categories of these habitats. These classifications can assist in determining patterns of species richness, or number of species, across the urban mosaic. Vacant lots are one such type of urban habitat classification. The term “vacant lots” refers to spatially discrete areas not occupied by built structures and having an average vegetation height above 6 inches. The height cutoff excludes mown lawns. Vacant lots did not include inner-blocks parks that were managed by the City of Baltimore.

VACANT LOTS IN BALTIMORE

Over the last 50 years, the City of Baltimore has undergone extensive demographic and economic changes with its population declining 33% from nearly 950,000 in 1950 to its current population of 637,418. Widespread abandonment and disinvestment have occurred in several neighborhoods, particularly high-density neighborhoods downtown. Currently, there are nearly 30,000 abandoned properties in Baltimore, including structures and lots. This amounts to approximately 13% of the total property parcels in the city. Of these abandoned properties, 11,198 are vacant lots without a built structure, representing 5% of the total parcels in the City. The vacant lots measured in this study were located in the Harlem Park neighborhood.

Family	Species	Common Name
Amaranthaceae (Amaranth)	<i>Amaranthus retroflexus</i> L.	Redroot amaranth
Sapindaceae (Soapberry)	<i>Acer negundo</i> L.	Boxelder
Sapindaceae (Soapberry)	<i>Acer platanoides</i> L.	Norway maple
Sapindaceae (Soapberry)	<i>Acer rubrum</i> L.	Red maple
Sapindaceae (Soapberry)	<i>Acer saccharinum</i> L.	Silver maple
Sapindaceae (Soapberry)	<i>Acer saccharum</i> Marshall	Sugar maple
Simaroubaceae (N/A)	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> (Miller) Swingle	Tree of heaven
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i> L.	Annual ragweed
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Arctium minus</i> Bernh.	Lesser burdock
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i> L.	Common wormwood
Apocynaceae (Dogbane)	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i> L.	Common milkweed
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Symphiotrichum pilosum</i> (Willd.) G.L. Nesom	Hairy white oldfield aster
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Aster pilosus</i>	
Poaceae (Grass)	<i>Bromus erectus</i> Huds.	Erect brome
Poaceae (Grass)	<i>Bromus japonicus</i> Thunb.	Japanese brome
Poaceae (Grass)	<i>Bromus sp.</i>	
Brassicaceae (Mustard)	cf. <i>Barbarea vulgaris</i> W.T. Aiton	Garden yellowrocket
Rosaceae (Rose)	cf. <i>Malus sp.</i>	
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed)	<i>Calystegia sepium</i> (L.) R. Brown	Hedge false bindweed
Bignoniaceae (Trumpet Creeper)	<i>Catalpa sp.</i>	Catalpa
Celastraceae (Bittersweet)	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i> Thunb.	Oriental bittersweet
Celtidaceae (Hackberry)	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i> L.	Common hackberry
Amaranthaceae (Amaranth)	<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.	Lambsquarters
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Cichorium intybus</i> L.	Chicory
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L.) Scop.	Canada thistle
Commelinaceae (Spiderwort)	<i>Commelina communis</i> L.	Asiatic dayflower
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Conyza canadensis</i> (L.) Cronquist	Canadian horseweed
Rosaceae (Rose)	<i>Crateagus sp.</i>	Hawthorn
Poaceae (Grass)	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> (L.) Pers.	Bermudagrass
Cyperaceae (Sedge)	Unknown 22	
Poaceae (Grass)	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i> L.	Orchardgrass
Apiaceae (Umbellifers)	<i>Daucus carota</i> L.	Queen Anne's lace
Poaceae (Grass)	<i>Digitaria sp.</i>	Crabgrass
Rosaceae (Rose)	<i>Duchesnea indica</i> (Andrews) Focke	Indian strawberry
Poaceae (Grass)	<i>Elymus repens</i> (L.) Gould	Quackgrass
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Erigeron annuus</i> (L.) Pers.	Eastern daisy fleabane

Family	Species	Common Name
Celastraceae (Bittersweet)	<i>Euonymous sp.</i>	Euonymus
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Ageratina altissima</i> (L.) King & H. Rob.	White snakeroot
Euphorbiaceae (Spurge)	<i>Chamaesyce humistrata</i> (Engelm. ex A. Gray) Small	Spreading sandmat
Poaceae (Grass)	<i>Schedonorus phoenix</i> (Scop.) Holub	Tall fescue
Poaceae (Grass)	<i>Festuca brevipila</i> Tracey	Hard fescue
Lamiaceae (Mint)	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i> L.	Ground ivy
Fabaceae (Bean)	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> L.	Honey locust
Araliaceae (Ivy)	<i>Hedera helix</i> L.	English ivy
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Helianthus sp.</i>	Sunflower
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Hieracium cf. caespitosum</i> Dumort.	Meadow hawkweed
Cannabaceae (Hemp)	<i>Humulus japonicus</i> Siebold & Zucc.	Japanese hop
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i> L.	Hairy cat's ear
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed)	<i>Ipomoea hederacea</i> Jacq.	Ivy leaf morning-glory
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed)	<i>Ipomea lacunosa</i> L.	White star
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Lactuca serriola</i> L.	Prickly lettuce
Brassicaceae (Mustard)	<i>Lepidium virginicum</i> L.	Virginia pepperweed
Plantaginaceae (Plantain)	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i> Miller	Butter and eggs
Poaceae (Grass)	<i>Lolium perenne</i> L.	Perennial ryegrass
Rosaceae (Rose)	<i>Malus sp.</i>	Apple
Malvaceae (Mallow)	<i>Malva neglecta</i> Wallr.	Common mallow
Asteraceae (Daisy)	<i>Matricaria discoidea</i> DC.	Disc mayweed
Fabaceae (Bean)	<i>Medicago lupulina</i> L.	Black medick
Fabaceae (Bean)	<i>Melilotus alba</i> Medikus	White sweetclover
Fabaceae (Bean)	<i>Melilotus officinalis</i> (L.) Pallas	Yellow sweetclover
Fabaceae (Bean)	<i>Mimosa sp.</i>	Mimosa
Moraceae (Mulberry)	<i>Morus alba</i> L.	White mulberry
Oxalidaceae (Wood Sorrel)	<i>Oxalis stricta</i> L.	Common yellow oxalis
Vitaceae (Grape)	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> (L.) Planch.	Virginia creeper
Paulowniaceae (N/A)	<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i> (Thunb.) Siebold & Zucc. ex Steud.	Princesstree
Phytolacca-ceae (Pokeweed)	<i>Phytolacca americana</i> L.	American pokeweed
Plantaginaceae (Plantain)	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	Narrowleaf plantain
Plantaginaceae (Plantain)	<i>Plantago major</i> L.	Common plantain
Poaceae (Grass)	<i>Poa pratensis</i> L.	Kentucky bluegrass
Polygonaceae (Knotweed)	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	Prostrate knotweed
Polygonaceae (Knotweed)	<i>Polygonum pensylvanicum</i> L.	Pennsylvania smartweed
Polygonaceae (Knotweed)	<i>Polygonum perfoliatum</i> L.	Asiatic tearthumb
Rosaceae (Rose)	<i>Potentilla simplex</i> Michaux	Common cinquefoil