



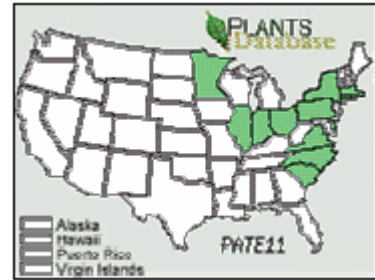
# Japanese Pachysandra

*Pachysandra terminalis* Sieb. & Zucc.

**Common Names:** Japanese pachysandra, Japanese spurge

**Native Origin:** Asia- Japan

**Description:** An evergreen perennial herb groundcover in the Boxwood family (*Buxaceae*) that can reach twelve inches in height and spread to form dense mats. Small oval-shaped leaves, generally two to four inches in length, alternate about the stem. Flowers are white and appear between March and April. Fruits are on terminal branches and are extremely small. Reproduces vegetatively through underground stems and roots.



**Habitat:** It is prominent along forest and meadow edges.

**Distribution:** This species is reported from states shaded on Plants Database map. It is reported invasive in VA and DC.

**Ecological Impacts:** Japanese spurge grows very quickly, spreading by underground stems and forming a very dense groundcover that can displace other vegetation.



## Control and Management:

- **Manual-** Hand pulling and controlled burning have been used successfully on appropriate areas.
- **Chemical-** It can be effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as glyphosate. Follow label and state requirements.

**References:** [www.forestimages.org](http://www.forestimages.org), <http://plants.usda.gov>, [www.nps.gov/plants/alien](http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien), <http://oncampus.richmond.edu>, [www.invasive.org](http://www.invasive.org), <http://hortweb.cas.psu.edu>, <http://pubs.caes.uga.edu>