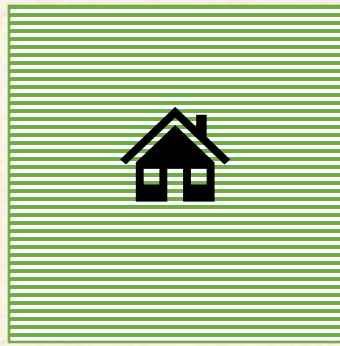


## THE PROBLEM

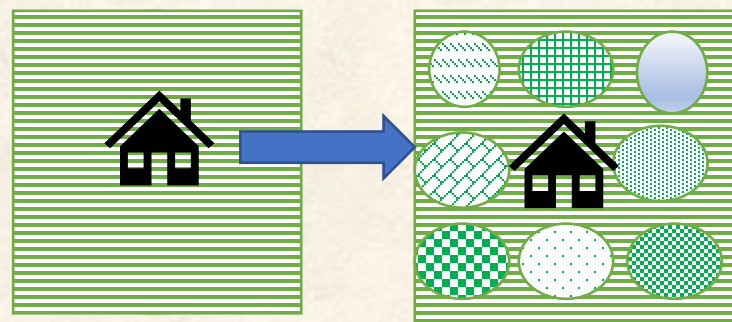
After starting LMNGBR, I started noticing the non-natives landscaping species that were used to decorate neighborhoods I visit and live. Plants were chosen for the purpose of aesthetics instead of native ecosystem function. From monoculture yards to non-native species that only provide structure, but no other benefits for the landscapes, suburbia has turned what once was a forested ecosystem to a sterile space.



MONOCULTURE

## THE SOLUTION

While there are much larger scale solutions that need to take precedent, every yard makes a difference. If four quarter-acre lots enhance their yard to a native habitat, that's a whole acre improved.



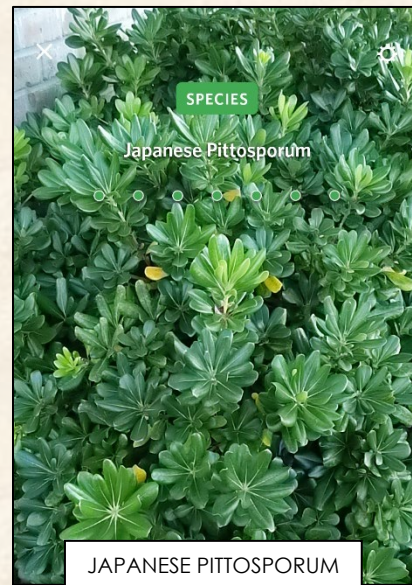
MONOCULTURE

ECOSYSTEM

## NEIGHBORHOOD STUDY

### NON-NATIVE SPECIES

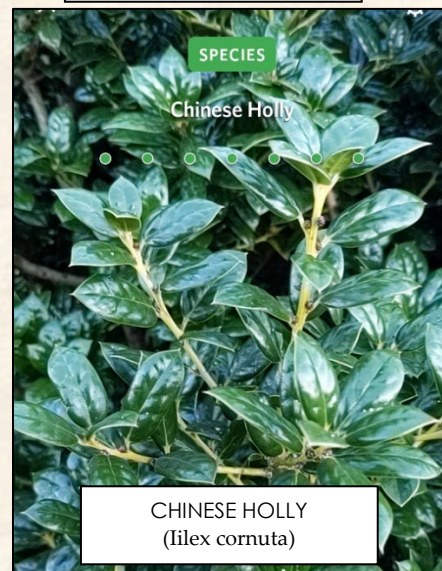
Once I started noticing the types of landscaping plants, I got curious as to what were the most common non-native plants in my neighborhood. I used the SEEK app to identify plants, and then compiled a list of the most frequently planted non-native species in my neighborhood.



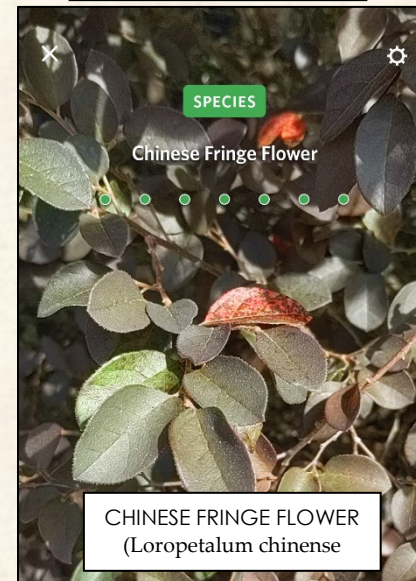
JAPANESE PITTOSPORUM  
(Pittosporum tobira)



CALLERY PEAR  
(Pyrus calleryana)



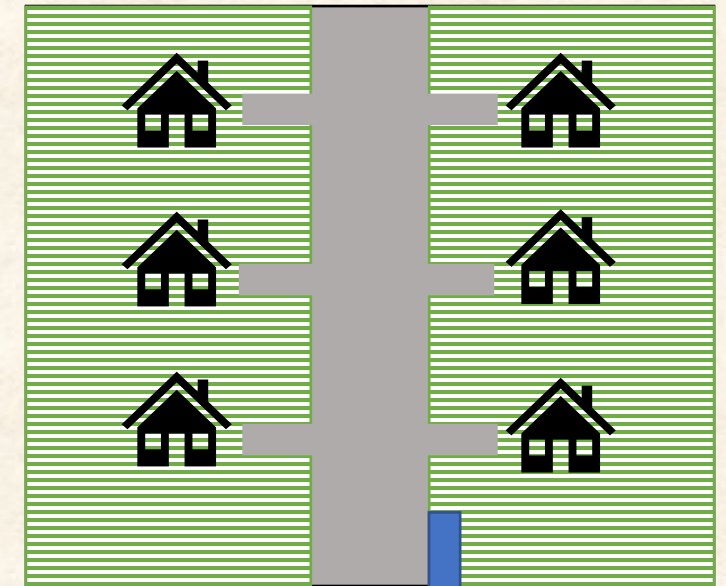
CHINESE HOLLY  
(Ilex cornuta)



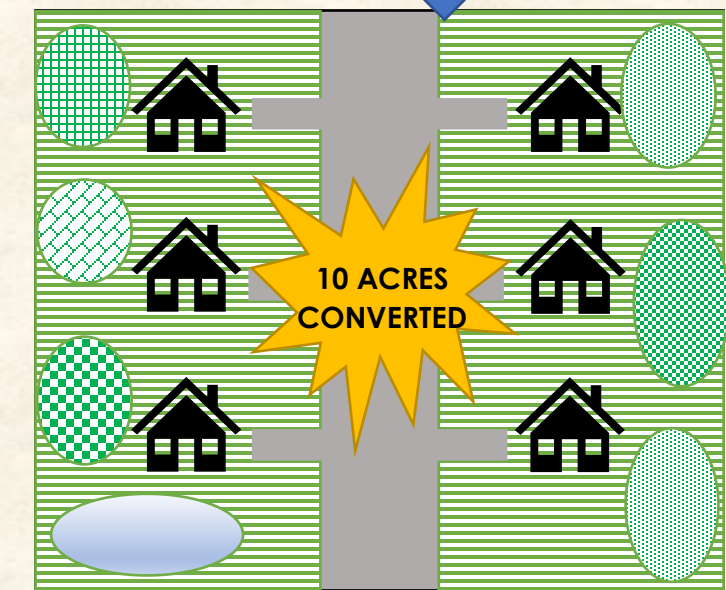
CHINESE FRINGE FLOWER  
(Loropetalum chinense)

### MULLET LANDSCAPING IN PRACTICE

If our neighborhood implemented Mullet Landscaping, we could turn approximately 10 acres of backyards to a native habitat!



EXISTING MONOCULTURE



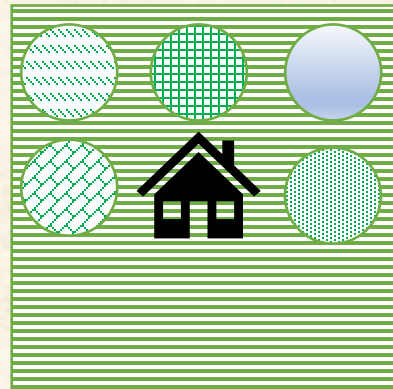
PROPOSED MULLET LANDSCAPING

## MODIFIED SOLUTION: MULLET LANDSCAPING

Let's be honest. To dig up and replace the Chinese holly or the perfectly line Japanese Pittosporum, would require a lot of work. They are adding some structure, habitat, and protection for species, so they aren't ALL bad.

Also, some of us live in HOAs that are particular about the way yards look. Instead of tearing up the front yard, why not improve to the back yard?

Business-looking yard in the front (HOA approved) and party in the back (nature approved)!



BUSINESS IN FRONT/PARTY IN THE BACK

“Party in the back” means planting native species that while they may not look as nice, trimmed, and pristine, it's wild, practical, and functional.

Let's look at this application on a neighborhood scale.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Where to find more information:

Louisiana Master Naturalists

Louisiana Master Gardeners

LSU AgCenter Native Plant Publications

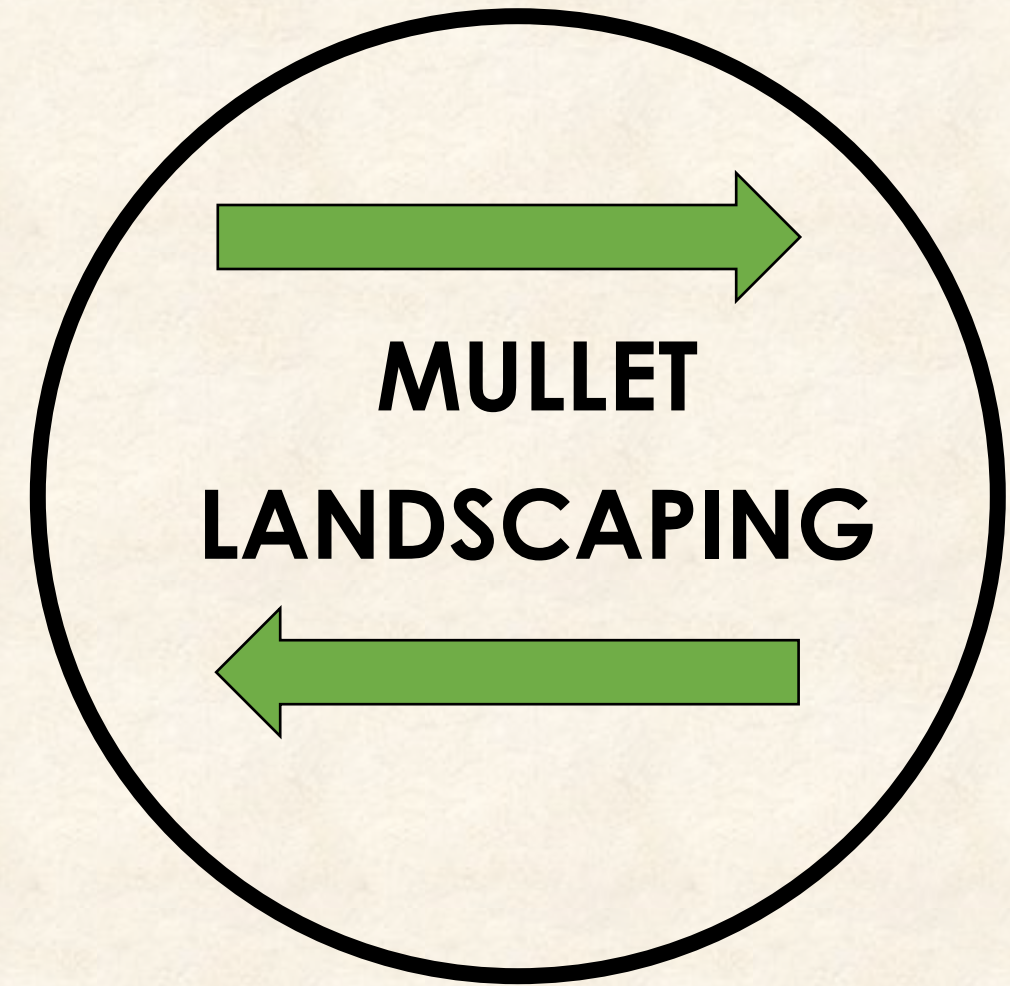


### Where to find native plants:

Clegg's Nursery

Hilltop Arboretum

Home Depot



Erin Linderman  
LMNGBR  
ISOPOD PROJECT  
2021