



## Local Forest Communities Answer Key

**1. Give two reasons why, for ecological restoration projects, native plants are better than plants from a different area.**

Answers may include: Native plants are better adapted to local soil, rainfall, and temperature conditions, and therefore require less maintenance; native plants have natural defenses against insects and disease; and native plants will not disrupt the natural ecosystem balance by out-competing other plants.

**2. What harm do invasive plants present to a local ecosystem?**

Invasive plants can spread rapidly and out-compete native species for resources, disrupting the natural ecosystem balance.

**3. What factors influence the types of plants that grow in a given area?**

Answers may include: Soil composition; moisture levels; nutrient types; climate zones; and other species composition.