

WHIP can help.

In recent years, the Wisconsin Headwaters Invasives Partnership has helped landowners in the Northwoods to identify and deal with Garlic Mustard. We have partnered with the WDNR and others to secure funds for appropriate herbicide treatments, and have also held successful Garlic Mustard Pull field days, with high school students from Conserve School and Phelps School. Working together, we can stop this invasive plant from taking over our valued Northwoods woodlands.

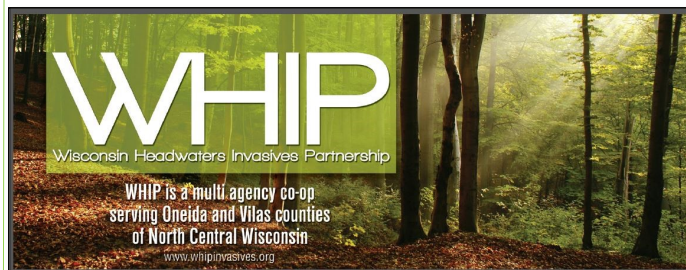
- ◇ If you plan to handpull Garlic Mustard, WHIP can provide bags and labels, and lend diggers, uprooters, and gloves.
- ◇ If you require handpulling assistance, we may be able to help recruit volunteers.
- ◇ If you are interested in herbicide application, for a large population, we can offer info and ideas for cost-sharing.

RESOURCES:

- ⇒ www.dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/fact/garlicmustard.html
- ⇒ www.learningstore.uwex.edu/Assets/pdfs/A3924-07.pdf
- ⇒ www.hort.uwex.edu/articles/invasive-plants-of-wisconsin-garlic-mustard/
- ⇒ www.dnr.wi.gov/files/pdf/pubs/fr/fr0350.pdf



WHIP member Rod Sharka discusses control options with a landowner in Phelps, WI.



Formed in 2009, the Wisconsin Headwaters Invasives Partnership (WHIP) is a multi-partner organization dedicated to the conservation of native species and habitats in Oneida and Vilas Counties of north-central Wisconsin. WHIP recognizes the threat of invasive species and works with partners to pool resources to provide education, monitoring and invasive species control.

**For more information or to volunteer with WHIP's Garlic Mustard control efforts, please contact our Coordinator at 715-282-7269, or see www.whipinvasives.org.
Thank you!**



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WHIP Wisconsin Headwaters
Invasives Partnership

Information for Northwoods Landowners

Garlic Mustard: identification and control



Photo: Wisconsin DNR

What is Garlic Mustard?

AKA: mustard root, garlic wort, garlic root, *Alliaria petiolata*

Status: *Restricted* in Wisconsin, under Wis. Adm. Code chapter NR 40

Garlic Mustard is a small non-native plant that can easily invade edges of forests and woodlands, as well as any disturbed areas such as yards and roadsides. It can grow in sun and shade. It was originally brought to Wisconsin with European settlers for culinary usage since it successfully flourishes in our short northern growing season. This plant is now becoming more common, spreading on both private and public property in several parts of Oneida and Vilas Counties.

How is it a threat to my property?

- Garlic Mustard can dominate a forest floor within just a few seasons, and out-competes our northern native wildflowers, ferns, and tree seedlings.
- Garlic mustard emits harmful chemicals into the soil, which suppress native plant growth.
- Decreased native biodiversity has lasting effects on wildlife and their food supply.
- High levels of invasive species can negatively affect recreation, agriculture, forestry, and lower property values.



A woodland taken over by Garlic Mustard.
Photo: E. Czarapata

How can I identify Garlic Mustard?

- Garlic Mustard is one of the first ground cover plants you will notice in early spring.
- Look for rosettes of kidney-shaped leaves with scalloped edges, and stalks up to 2 ft with tiny white flowers of 4 petals (2nd year plants).
- The taproot is slender and white, with a U-shaped bend., easily pulled.
- Small black seeds form in elongated capsules.



Photo: R. Routledge

A key characteristic of this plant is that crushed leaves will have a strong garlic or onion odor!



Photo: L.J. Mehrhoff



Photo: K. Kearns



Rosette of 1st year plant. Photo: S. Katovich, USDA Forest Service, bugwood.org.

How can I control Garlic Mustard?

Garlic Mustard responds well to springtime hand-pulling as an easy and effective way to control small populations. Plants should be securely bagged, labeled **“invasive species— approved for landfill”** and disposed of with trash.

Careful herbicide treatments can be applied in early spring or fall, when other plants are dormant but Garlic Mustard is still green and vulnerable. Check the University of Wisconsin-Extension and the DNR websites for updated herbicide recommendations or see: <http://bit.ly/21asNj3>. Seeds can remain viable in soil for several years, but consistent control efforts will keep thousands of seeds from germinating on your property, and will eventually lead to a much healthier forest.



Garlic Mustard Pull with Conserve School students, 2015. Panel Photos: R. Page



Bags are labeled for disposal.



Characteristic kink in root.

- ♦ Seeds spread easily on boots, clothing, vehicles, and mowers. Check your cuffs!
- ♦ Share your experiences with neighbors to grow the effort against Garlic Mustard!