**Common Buckthorn**

***Rhamnus cathartica***

# **Identification**

Common buckthorn is a deciduous shrub/small tree that can reach heights up to 25 ft. Bark is gray to brown with lighter colored lenticels. When the bark is peeled back, it is yellow-orange colored. The leaves are oval shaped with deep, forward curved veins. Stems end in thorn.

# **Reproduction**

Small, inconspicuous, greenish-yellow flowers bloom in clusters at the leaf axil between May and June. Dark blue to black berries ripen between August and September and persist throughout the winter. The fruit is eaten by birds and other wildlife with facilitates seed dispersal.

# **Habitat**

Found in lightly shaded areas along roadsides and forest edges. Common buckthorn is tolerant of a variety of soil types

# **Threat**

Integrated Pest Management for

COMMON NAME

**Due to the threat of common name to local ecosystems, it is important to reduce the size and limit the spread of existing populations. Invasive species are controlled through prevention, eradication, containment and suppression.** **An integrated pest management (IPM) approach should be adopted to control unwanted species. The integrated approach is a combination of manual, mechanical, biological and chemical controls.  IPM requires post treatment monitoring and treatment over a period of several years, leading to more successful outcomes (**<https://nysipm.cornell.edu/about/defining-ipm/>).

# **Practices to Avoid**

1. Ff
2. Ff
3. ff

# **Manual and Mechanical Control**

# **Biological Control**

# **Herbicide Control**

Please consult an expert or certified applicator when applying herbicides. Read and follow herbicide product labels as required by law. Seek out proper local, state, and federal permitting when applying herbicides.

# **Herbicide Treatment for Homeowners/Private landowners**

# **Time of Year:**

# **Example Chemical(s) to Use: Read all Product Labels as Required By Law**

*Product names are listed as examples, and not as endorsement or recommendation. The suitability and details for specific use of these products are provided through their labels.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Chemical**  **(Products containing)** | **Timing** | **Application Technique** | **Notes** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

Terrestrial invasive species disclaimer:

If there is water present near the infestation, a permit from the DEC is required. For more information regarding aquatic pesticide permitting, please contact the nearest DEC Regional Office: Division of Environmental Permits at (518) 357-2069 or visit: [**http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/209.html**](http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/209.html).

Aquatic invasive species disclaimer:

For aquatic infestations, a permit from the DEC is required. For more information regarding aquatic pesticide permitting, please contact the nearest DEC Regional Office: Division of Environmental Permits at (518) 357-2069 or visit: [**http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/209.html**](http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/209.html)

# **Timeline of Action**

**For More Information Seek out the Cornell Guidelines for Pesticide Use:**

The Cornell Guidelines offer the latest information on topics such as pest management, crop production, and landscape plant maintenance. Each title in the series is updated by Cornell University researchers and Extension specialists and is designed as a practical guides. <https://www.cornellstore.com/books/cornell-cooperative-ext-pmep-guidelines>

# **Native Replacements**

After removing or treating COMMON NAME, it is important to reseed or plant the disturbed soils with native species common in the geographic area. Replanting will help restore the ecosystem and prevent old infestations from re-establishing. Consider using stress tolerant plants in harsh environments that are best suited to a given site.  If pre-existing native plants are present on site, protect these species from harm, during management.  The surrounding native species can then be used to aid in the heathy reestablishment of the area. More information about native plants, shrubs and trees can be found:

Alternatives to Ornamental Invasive Plants “A Sustainable Solution for New York State”

* <https://nysipm.cornell.edu/sites/nysipm.cornell.edu/files/shared/documents/NYSIPM-alt-inv.pdf>

NYSDEC Native Plant Factsheets

* <https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/factnatives.pdf>

Lady Bird Johnson Native Flower Database

* <https://www.wildflower.org/plants/>

Westchester Community College Native Plant Center

* <https://www.sunywcc.edu/about/npc/>

# **Definitions:**

**Manual Control:** a technique to remove small infestations. Some examples of manual control is hand-pulling, mulching, burning, digging, and removal of the entire plant, portions of a plant, nests, egg masses, or other life stages. This type of control is only economically feasible for small infestations.

**Herbicide Control:** a technique which uses chemicals to remove or decrease the population of a species. Herbicides are usually one of the last choices for control as they are usually expensive and have adverse effects to the environment. There are different methods to apply an herbicide. Some examples are: foliar spray, basal bark, bundle and cut, and cut-stump treatment.

**Biological Control:** a technique where an animal, insect, fungi or disease is used to manage a large invasive species population. This control species is studied intensively to see if there could be any negative effects for native species.

**Foliar Spray:** method of herbicide control where the chemical is sprayed directly on the leaves. Sprayers can be hand held, on a backpack or mounted on a vehicle. If a plant has a waxy surface, a surfactant may be needed to allow the herbicide to work.

**Cut-stump treatment:** method of herbicide control where the stem is cut, near the base of the plant, and an herbicide is applied. Water-based herbicides should be applied immediately following the stem cut while oil-based can be applied later. The herbicide can be applied use a sprayer or sponge/paint brush.

**Selective herbicides:** a type of herbicide which kills specific groups of plants but not others. For examples, a selective herbicide may kill broadleaf plants, like dandelions, but not grasses.

**Non-selective herbicides:** a type of herbicide which kills all types of plants. When using this herbicide, any plant that is sprayed will be effected.

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