

## *Rhodotypos scandens*, Black Jetbead

Black Jetbead is a shrub that was used for, you guessed it, landscaping purposes in the 1800s and early 1900s before its invasive potential was realized. The plant does not need much soil to survive and has been seen reaching mature size in as little as three inches of soil.

**Population Status:** Confirmed- Columbia Co., Historical- Albany and Green Co.

**Description:** Black Jetbead is named for its dark, hard fruits that grow in fours. It forms large colonies and the leaves are opposite and simple with double-serrated margins, growing two to four inches long. This is one of the first shrubs to leaf out in spring. The fruits of this plant mature from green to red to eventually shiny and black.

**Control:** Plants can be manually pulled when possible.

**Look-alikes:** Jetbead has been said to look like Linden Viburnum (Invasive, Tier 1) and Arrowwood Viburnum (native). The leaves of these plants are different in their serration and the fruiting structures of the viburnums is very different than Jetbead.

**Flower Time and Description:** Jetbead has white, four-petaled flowers that start appearing in late spring.

