



Garlic Mustard Treatment Info

Once established, Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) is extremely hard to eradicate. Management techniques become more time intensive with the longevity of the infestation. If able to do so, eliminating the plant when it first appears will be much easier than trying to control a well-established stand.

Mechanical Control

Methods such as hand-pulling or cutting with a weed whip are adequate for small infestations. Timing of action can be seen in the graph below. Plants that have been pulled or cut should be placed either in a pile to burn or in garbage bags to be sent to a landfill. If residue is left behind, seeds may get into the soil and further the spread of the plant.

Prescribed Fire

For small infestations, a propane weed torch may be used to wilt the stems and leaves of a plant. This should be done in the spring time when plants are starting to grow. For larger infestations an actual prescribed fire may be enacted. This will kill seedlings as well as actively growing second year plants, however exposing the soil may make existing Garlic Mustard seeds in the seed bank germinate. After a large fire, follow up treatments are necessary for multiple years to further stress the population and deplete its seed bank.

**Refer to Prescribed Fire Technical Sheet for Ohio burning laws and regulations*

Chemical Control

Foliar application with a glyphosate product can be used to treat large areas of infestation. Garlic Mustard starts growing early in the spring and remains green late into the fall, when most plants have not yet started growing or are dormant which allows for specific targeting as well as very little harm to desired plants. A 2% solution is adequate.

**Refer to Herbicide Technical Sheet for precautions and guidelines for handling chemicals*

	Method	Timing
Mechanical/Prescribed Fire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dig up roots anytime • Hand pull flowering plants • Cut flowering plants • Torch emerged seedlings • Prescribed Fire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring, summer, fall • Spring, early summer • Late spring, summer • Spring • Spring, fall
Chemical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foliar Application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring and fall



Resources

Forest Invasive Plants Resource Center - <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/invasiveplants/> - USDA Forest Service

DOW AgroSciences Online Weed Guide - <http://www.dowagro.com/en-us/vm/weeds-brush/broadleaf-weeds/g/garlic-mustard>

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