

# **Woody Invasive Control Methods**

#### **Herbicide Methods:**

### Foliar spray

Spray the plant's entire leaf surface with herbicide; only recommended for very small plants, as it takes more herbicide and has greater risk for drift/overspray.

#### **Cut-Stump**

Cut plants close to the ground using loppers or a chainsaw, then dab stump (or edges, if large) with concentrated herbicide. Plant "tops" can be piled and left, burned, or chipped.

- ISN recommends a broadleaf-selective herbicide (won't kill grasses) such as triclopyr (e.g. Garlon, Brushkill, Vastlan); glyphosate (Round-Up, AquaNeat) also works well, but will kill grasses it touches. NOTE: triclopyr is not approved for use in crop areas such as in or near orchards.
  - a. Always follow the label, including appropriate application rate, location, and clothing & Personal Protective Equipment.
  - b. If near water, be sure to use an aquatic-approved herbicide.
  - c. If you're unsure, use a Michigan Certified pesticide applicator for any herbicide work.
- 2. Herbicide application should follow as quickly as possible after cutting; under 10 minutes.
- 3. Best times for cut-stump treatments are just about any time besides spring; once the buds break, the plant's fluids are moving up too much for control to be effective. Species may have most-effective treatment windows.
  - a. In summer, fall, or winter, it's best to pick a time that most of the fruits are gone to avoid spreading, unless you're planning to burn the tops.



Cut into the bark of the tree in several areas using a hatchet, not quite girdling the tree but exposing the inner bark as much as possible. Immediately spray concentrated herbicide into the cuts. Similar to cut-stump, but leaves the tree standing (minimum 30 days) to allow for better transfer of herbicide to roots and "suckered" young plants.

- 1. Same herbicides, timing, and precautions as cut-stump
- 2. Most effective for trees that do clonal spreading, like tree-of-heaven and black locust (if standing dead trees will not be a hazard).

#### **Non-Herbicide Methods:**

## **Pulling**

Pull shrubs out by the roots; some species, such as autumn olive and buckthorns often have lateral roots branching out sideways with new shrubs sprouting up. Dispose of shrubs in a pile that can be monitored, or by chipping or burning.

# Cutting

Cut shrubs close to the ground; loppers, chainsaw, or brushhog are all effective. Mow or re-cut new sprouts at least once a year. Pile, burn, or chip shrub tops.

#### **Buckthorn Baggie**

Works for most woody species, but special care must be taken to apply the Baggies correctly. Cut shrubs, leaving ~6" of stump. Zip-tie Buckthorn Baggie to stump for one year (can be reused at least once). Cut any new growth in the area. Pile, burn, or chip shrub tops. www.buckthornbaggie.com

#### **Controlled Burns**

An excellent way of controlling many invasive shrub species, this method requires the supervision and planning of a prescribed burn expert. Visit <a href="http://firecouncil.org/">http://firecouncil.org/</a> for more information

Note: If you do <u>any</u> kind of burning, please follow your local burn ordinances.

For more information about invasive species, visit

www.HabitatMatters.org