

**WHITE OAK MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**INVASIVE PLANTS on White Oak Mountain Range – Blue Wall Escarpment**

### **Tree of Heaven**

**Bottom Line:** Female trees have up to 325,000 seeds annually with a 90% germination rate. Yep, that is One (1) Tree with **1/3 of a million seeds**. It is growing rampant on “open” mountain land which is why the Architectural Committee needs to review any proposed Tree Cutting on Your Property. With a 90% germination rate it is so very important that this plant be *controlled/eliminated*. Tree of Heaven can be controlled by cutting and immediately painting an appropriate herbicide on the stump. Polk County retired County Agent John Vining said; “in the years to come, the Tree of Heaven will displace Kudzu as the most prevalent invasive species we will be dealing with”. Learn what this plant looks like. Then KILL IT, then kill it again and again. ***Persistence is the key.***



“A fast growing tree with large leaves having 11-41 leaflets, Leaflets are not toothed except for a pair of gland-tipped teeth near bases (see white arrows). Flowers small, yellowish, clustered, male blossoms with foul odor June-July. Fruits in large clustered, dry, narrow, one seed, winged, September to Winter. It will survive under extremely adverse conditions, growing as much as 8 feet a year. Annual sprouts 12 feet long not uncommon where a tree has been cut down it also runs suckers from roots. Viable seeds are present on 2 to 3-year-old trees.” Excerpts from Peterson Field Guides, Eastern Tree, 1988, Pg. 236.

More information at NC State University: <https://projects.ncsu.edu/goingnative/howto/mapping/invexse/treeofhe.html>

### **Paulownia or Princess Tree or Royal Empress Tree**



It's hard to miss this one on the Mountain. “Tree Height 30 to 60 ft, Flowers purplish with yellow stripes inside, in large terminal clusters, April to May; Fruits 1.25”-1.75” somewhat pecan-like woody capsules containing many small, winged, seeds, husks present all winter.” Excerpts from Peterson Field Guides, Eastern Tree, 1988, Pg. 200.

More information at NC State University: <https://projects.ncsu.edu/goingnative/howto/mapping/invexse/princess.html>

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**Kudzu: The vine that ate the South! And it is now eating White Oak Mountain.**



NC State University advises the following:

Plant Control: Mature patches of Kudzu can be difficult to contain let alone control. Kudzu can be controlled with glyphosate but it may take several years of follow-up treatments to achieve eradication. Although there are stronger herbicides available, they may not be appropriate for use in the home landscape. Before applying herbicide, sever climbing vines in trees at ground level. If possible, mow or weed-eat ground level patches during the growing season so that root crowns are visible. Allow vines to re-sprout, then spot-spray the ground level foliage at the root crowns with a 5% solution of glyphosate with surfactant in late summer. You can try using a 10% solution or painting the entire node with undiluted glyphosate concentrate (53.8% preferable) to see if that will inflict more damage to the large tuber-like root. If mechanical vine control prior to herbicide application is impractical, you can spray the stand with a 5% glyphosate and surfactant solution in late summer, but note that non-target plants may be at higher risk with this method. Monitor sprouting at root crowns each year thereafter and re-treat annually until control is achieved.

**Persistence is the key.**

More information at NC State University: <https://projects.ncsu.edu/goingnative/howto/mapping/invxse/kudzu.html>

This spring 2018 WOMA will attempt to Map the Invasive Plants. If you know of any of these plants on your property, please contact the Association's Secretary to assist in the Invasive Plant Mapping Project. In the meantime, do not hesitate to KILL these plants. As with most Invasive Species they are most difficult and **Your Persistence is the Key to saving our Forest and Mountain.**