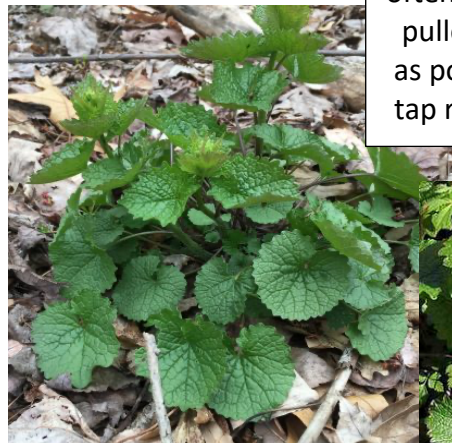


Garlic Mustard is a major threat to birds, butterflies & forests!

- Garlic mustard is a biennial (a 2-year plant). In the first year, it has round leaves with jagged edges. In its second year, it grows 2-3' tall, flowers & goes to seed.
- Garlic Mustard changes the soil where it grows, making it so that almost nothing else can grow in that soil.
- **Garlic mustard spreads AGGRESSIVELY where it grows. One plant this year = 3,000+ next year.** It also spreads when people dump their lawn debris onto roadsides or compost it: its seeds are often present in the free compost found in most towns' transfer stations/dumps.
- It kills an endangered butterfly species. It also displaces the native plants that wildlife like hummingbirds & monarch butterflies need to survive. Once it gets into a wooded area, it can eventually kill the entire forest.
- Garlic Mustard seeds are found in many commercially purchased wildflower seed mixes, even though it's illegal in every state.
- Herbicides are generally not effective at controlling Garlic Mustard & harm wildflowers, birds & wildlife.



March: Tiny garlic mustard seedlings can be found. Pull them or smother them.



April: The plants are generally 4-8" tall. The leaves have serrated edges. There is often a strong garlic smell when crushed or pulled. Grab the plant as close to the soil as possible and slowly pull out by the long tap root. Throw away in sealed trash bag.



We need volunteers across the South Shore!

WildCohasset.org

Late April - Early May: pull by the roots. Throw away in sealed plastic bag with the trash. Start at the edges of infected areas and work your way in, making the 'island' smaller and smaller. **Attack small patches before large areas.**



Late May - Mid June: still OK to pull as long as you see NO black seeds on the green stems NEVER compost Garlic Mustard! Throw away in sealed trash bag.



If the seeds are still inside stems, it is safe to pull the plant.

Early July: Once the green seed stems have turned brown OR you can see black seeds along green stems, DON'T PULL or walk through the plants. Wait until next spring or you are likely to infect new areas. Don't walk in the woods after walking through an area with these plants!



Close up of seeds

If the stems are brown and you can see seeds, do NOT pull now. Note the area & wait until next May.