

Invasive Plants of Wisconsin



Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*)

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Perennial, woody spreading or climbing vine. Usually 6-10' long, up to 30', dominating tree canopies and forming mats on ground. Young stems are brown to red and usually have soft, fine hairs while older stems are woody and hollow, with bark that peels in long strips.

Legal Classification in WI: Prohibited

Leaves: Simple, opposite, oblong to oval, 1.5-3" long, sometimes lobed, rounded base, tips vary from round to blunt-point, and may be covered with fine, soft hairs. Leaves persist on vine until mid-winter.

Flowers: Late spring to early summer. Tubular and very fragrant, with petals fused to form two lips and stamens protruding beyond petals. White to pink, turning yellow with age, and occurring in pairs where the leaf attaches to the stem (leaf axil).

Fruits & seeds: Small, round, 0.25" berries, singly in leaf axil. Purple-black when ripe and contain 2-3 seeds.

Roots: Produces underground rhizomes and long aboveground stolons that develop roots where nodes contact soil.

Similar species: Native honeysuckle vines have red or orange berries, flowers at tips of stems, and leaves that are fused at the base around the stem (connate) below flowers. *Lonicera sempervirens* (native), usually has fused leaves, but not always. Leaves of non-flowering plants have hairless undersides, Japanese honeysuckle does not.

Ecological threat:

- Invades disturbed sites, open woods, woodland edges, forest openings, floodplains, fields, roadsides, barrens and fencerows. Prefers sunny locations, but tolerates most light levels. Sensitive to dry conditions. Severe winter temperatures may restrict its northward spread and low rainfall may limit westward spread.

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CONTROL METHODS:**Non-Chemical control**

Removal – Seedlings and small to medium sized honeysuckles can be controlled by pulling or digging plants as long as the rhizomes and rooted stolons are removed. Larger plants may necessitate removal of soil near the plant base to facilitate removal. If the vine has invaded a tree, remove only the below ground tissue. Leave the vine in the tree as it provides shade, which can reduce honeysuckle seed germination. If seeds are present when removal is taking place, avoid movement off-site unless material can be transported without spreading seed to other locations.

Mowing – After initial removal, mowing re-sprouts can reduce the number and length of vegetative runners produced. However, mowing increases the density of honeysuckle stems and can cause the honeysuckle to enter a low, matted growth form therefore is not an effective strategy when used exclusively. Mowing is not recommended unless integrated with other methods.

Prescribed burning – Spring burns can kill germinating seedlings and young plants. Fire can also suppress above ground growth of established plant depending on fire intensity. After the fire, established plants will quickly re-sprout or re-root and reinvade areas; this management method is not recommended unless integrated with other techniques. A hand-held propane torch can be effective for treating seedlings.

Chemical control²

Foliar – Apply directly to individual plants or broadcast across an infested area. Broadcasted foliar applications are typically the most cost effective treatment in dense infestations. Immediately after leaf and flower formation is the most effective application timing. Use lower rates on smaller plants and less dense populations and higher rates on larger plants and denser populations.

<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): glyphosate</p> <p>Common product name: Roundup</p>	<p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 2.0 - 3.7 lb a.e./A <i>spot</i>: 1.0 - 2.5% (0.04 - 0.11 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – When target species is actively growing and fully leafed out.</p> <p>Caution – Applications can result in bare ground as glyphosate is not selective. Use aquatically labeled product if potential exists for solution to contact open waters.</p>
<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): imazapyr</p> <p>Common product name: Arsenal</p>	<p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 32 - 48 fl oz/A (0.50 - 0.75 lb a.e./A) <i>spot</i>: 0.5 - 1.5% (0.02 - 0.03 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – When target species is actively growing and fully leafed out.</p> <p>Caution - Applications can result in bare ground as imazapyr is not selective and can remain active in the soil for several months to over a year depending on application rate. Use aquatically labeled product if potential exists for solution to contact open waters.</p>

² Herbicide information is based on label rates and reports by researchers and land managers. Products known to provide effective control or in common use are included. Those that do not provide sufficient control or lack information for effectiveness on target species have been omitted. References to pesticide products in this publication are for your convenience and not an endorsement of one product over a similar product. You are responsible for using pesticides in accordance with the label directions. *Read the label before any application.*

<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): metsulfuron</p> <p>Common product name: Escort</p>	<p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 0.5 - 1.5 oz/A (0.3 - 0.9 oz a.i./A) <i>spot</i>: 0.5 - 2.0 oz/100gal (0.3 - 1.2 oz a.i./100 gal)</p> <p>Timing – When target species is actively growing and fully leafed out.</p> <p>Caution - Metsulfuron can remain active in the soil for months depending on application rate. Has potential to leach through soil into ground water under certain conditions. Use of this chemical in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow, may result in ground-water contamination.</p>
<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): triclopyr + 2,4-D</p> <p>Common product name: Crossbow</p>	<p>Rate – <i>broadcast</i>: 192 fl oz/A (triclopyr: 1.5 lb a.e./A + 2,4-D: 3 lb a.e./A) <i>spot</i>: 1.0 - 1.5% (triclopyr: 0.01-0.015 lb a.e./gal + 2,4-D: 0.02-0.030 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – When target species is actively growing and fully leafed out.</p> <p>Caution – Can volatilize, avoid application during high temperatures and low humidity, especially when the application contacts impervious surfaces. Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided, as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury.</p>
<p>Cut stump – Cut a stem of a plant near the base and apply herbicide to the cut surface that remains rooted in the ground. Do not use this method if there is heavy sap flow or snow covers the cut surface. Use lower rates on smaller plants and higher rates on larger plants.</p>	
<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): glyphosate</p> <p>Common product name: Roundup</p>	<p>Rate – 18 - 25% (0.8 - 1.1 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – Anytime of year.</p> <p>Remarks - Mix with water. In temperatures below freezing solution can become unusable.</p> <p>Caution – Applications can result in bare ground as glyphosate is not selective. Use aquatically labeled product if potential exists for solution to contact open waters.</p>
<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): imazapyr</p> <p>Common product name: Stalker</p>	<p>Rate – 5% (0.2 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – Anytime of year.</p> <p>Caution - Avoid application to the soil as herbicide is not selective and can remain active in the soil for several months to over a year depending on application rate. Use aquatically labeled product if potential exists for solution to contact open waters.</p>

<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): picloram + 2,4-D</p> <p>Common product name: Pathway</p> <p>Some products containing picloram are restricted use in Wisconsin.</p>	<p>Rate – 100% (picloram: 3% + 2,4-D: 11.2%)</p> <p>Timing – Anytime of year.</p> <p>Caution – Known to leach through soil into ground water under certain conditions. Use of this chemical in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow, may result in ground water contamination. Persists in soil for up to one year, especially active on legumes. Do not compost treated plants as herbicide can persist through composting process. Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided, as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury.</p>
<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): triclopyr</p> <p>Common product name: Tahoe 4</p>	<p>Rate – 20 - 30% in oil (0.8 - 1.2 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – Anytime of year.</p> <p>Caution – Can volatilize, avoid application during high temperatures and low humidity, especially when the application contacts impervious surfaces. Use aquatically labeled product if potential exists for solution to contact open waters.</p>
<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): triclopyr + 2,4-D</p> <p>Common product name: Crossbow</p>	<p>Rate – 4% in oil (triclopyr: 0.04 lb a.e./gal + 2,4-D: 0.08 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – Anytime of year.</p> <p>Caution – Can volatilize, avoid application during high temperatures and low humidity, especially when the application contacts impervious surfaces. Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury.</p>
<p>Basal bark – Apply herbicide in a ring around the entire stem. Applications should be made at least 6” wide (6-18”) to the base of a woody stem. Ideal for stems ≤6” in diameter. Use lower rates on smaller plants and higher rates on larger plants.</p>	
<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): dicamba</p> <p>Common product name: Banvel</p>	<p>Rate – 25 - 50% in oil (1.0 – 2.0 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – Anytime of year.</p> <p>Caution – May cause stunting and discoloration of sensitive grasses, such as smooth brome. Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided, as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury.</p>

<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): imazapyr</p> <p>Common product name: Stalker</p>	<p>Rate – 6.0 – 9.0% in oil (0.12 - 0.18 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing – Anytime of year.</p> <p>Remarks – May be mixed with antifreeze (ethylene glycol) in cold weather to avoid freezing.</p> <p>Caution - Avoid application to the soil as herbicide is not selective and can remain active in the soil for several months to over a year depending on application rate. Use aquatically labeled product if potential exists for solution to contact open waters.</p>
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