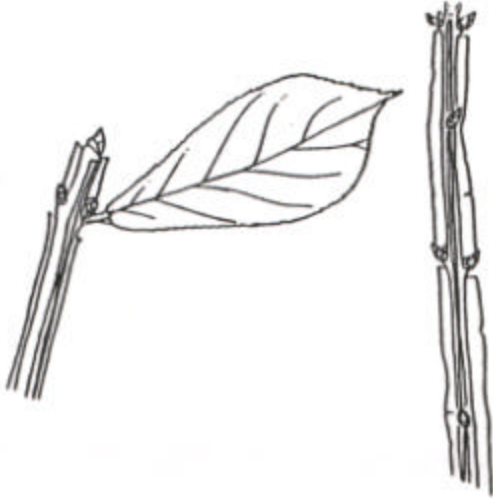


INVASIVE EXOTICS

Burning Bush

Euonymus alatus

Bittersweet Family (Celastraceae)



What does it look like? Burning bush, native to northeast Asia, is a deciduous shrub that can grow to 12 ft. tall. The green branches and twigs of this plant have four wide, corky wings. The crown of the burning bush is very dense and broad. The leaves are elliptical in shape and turn a bright scarlet red in the fall, giving it the common name, burning bush.

What habitats are threatened by this plant? Burning bush grows well in full sun as well as deep shade and in dry to relatively moist soils. It is most problematic in open woods and in mature second growth upland forests, pastures and hill prairies in the East and Midwest.

How does this plant spread? Burning bush was introduced into the U.S. in the 1860's as an ornamental. Presently burning bush is used extensively in foundation plantings, hedges and highway plantings. Birds are the primary spreaders of this plant. Seedlings are commonly found in hill prairies and woodlands when ornamental plantings of burning bush are nearby.

How can it be controlled? Be sure not to plant this shrub. However, if burning bush is established, it can be controlled by cutting and then painting the stump with a glyphosate herbicide such as Roundup. Foliar spraying with Roundup in early summer may be necessary where large populations are established. Follow directions on the label when you apply any herbicide. Great native plants to substitute for burning bush are strawberry bush (*Euonymus americanus*), chokeberry (*Aronia spp.*), and spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*).

Copyright 2002 All Rights Reserved Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve. Created by John Courtney for the Preserve, 1997.

THIS DOCUMENT MAY BE REPRODUCED AND DISTRIBUTED FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. REPRODUCTION FOR OTHER PURPOSES WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM BOWMAN'S HILL WILDFLOWER PRESERVE IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

BHWP P.O. Box 685, New Hope, PA 18938 (215) 862-2924 bhwp@bhwp.org www.bhwp.org