

A Friendly Notice about Invasive Plants

It appears your property may contain
Garlic Mustard



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Invasive plants are aggressive non-native species that reproduce rapidly, outcompete native species, and can negatively impact agriculture, industry, recreation, forestry, human health, and the environment. Invasive plants may be introduced unintentionally, as hitchhikers on clothing, gear, or equipment, or unknowingly, often for ornamental purposes.

This notice is part of the early detection, response, and monitoring plan for the **Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program** whose mission is to protect the region from the negative impacts of invasive species.

For more information contact the
Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program
518-576-2082, P.O. Box 65, Keene Valley, NY 12943
www.adkinvasives.com

GARLIC MUSTARD (*Alliaria petiolata*)

Origin: Europe

THE PROBLEM: First introduced as an herb, garlic mustard escaped from gardens and invaded forest understories. It outcompetes prized native spring wildflowers like trilliums and spring beauty, depriving native pollinators of essential nutrients. Garlic mustard also releases chemicals harmful to soil fungus important to native plants and trees. Seeds can remain viable for up to 5-10 years and can be transported in infected soil.

HOW TO IDENTIFY: Garlic mustard is a biennial herb with kidney shaped leaves close to the ground in the first year. The second-year plant can grow multiple stems up to 4 feet tall with triangular, sharply-toothed leaves. In May, small white flowers grow in clusters at the top of the stem with 4 petals in the shape of a cross.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Pull out plants and roots during flowering prior to seed development. Put all plant pieces in plastic bags and take them to a sanitary landfill. Do not compost, as plants survive, spread, and decompose slowly. Monitor the site in the fall, pull out any new plants, and repeat each year until the seed bank is depleted. Herbicide is also effective - follow regulations.

Observer name: _____

Phone #: _____

Date species was observed: _____

Comments: _____

Thank you for your help in the fight against
invasive species!