

Kanabec (SWCD) County Weed Management Area Partnership (KCWMAP)

KANABEC SOIL & WATER



CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The KCWMAP was made possible through a grant awarded to the Kanabec Soil and Water Conservation District in 2009, from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Phone: (320) 679-3982

2008 Mahogany St., Ste. 3
Mora, Mn 55051



BEFORE CONTROL

PHOTO CREDIT: TSA #3, Nicholas Solomon

A GUIDE FOR IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL OF NOXIOUS WEEDS AND WEEDS OF CONCERN IN KANABEC COUNTY



Note the reduction in brushy understory.
Species removed included Tartarian Honeysuckle and European

AFTER CONTROL

PHOTO CREDIT: TSA #3, Nicholas Solomon

WHO WE ARE

The Kanabec Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) received a Cooperative Weed Management Grant in 2010, to begin targeting the control and increase the awareness of buckthorn and other invasive species within Kanabec County. The grant in the amount of \$15,000, is being used for equipment, technical assistance, implementation, coordination and education.

To assist with the project is a Vegetative Restoration Specialist, who works for the Area III - Technical Service Area for northeast Mn. The grant runs through Dec. 2011. For more information, contact the Kanabec Soil and Water Conservation District office in Mora at ph. 320-679-3982.

Local partners in the Cooperative include:

- Kanabec Soil and Water Conservation District
- Kanabec County
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- DNR Forestry
- City of Mora
- Kanabec County History Center
- Private landowners.

Grant Activities

2010

Projects and activities started in 2010 include equipment purchases, chemical and mechanical treatment of buckthorn and other invasive species on the Kanabec History Center property, near the west side of Mora, and on other land near the Groundhouse River, south of Ogilvie.

2011

Landowner and public information meetings will be held this year in Mora. Staff will be available to assist landowners with identification and create plans to manage infestations of invasive weeds.

SERVICES AVAILBILE

Along with technical assistance to help landowners become aware of and control invasive species on their property, the KCWMAP also has tools available to assist in eradication efforts.

Weed Wrenches™ and Extractigator™ weed pulling tools and chemical sprayers are available for rental within the boundaries of Kanabec County for the removal and control of invasive shrubs and trees. (tools shown below)

Weed pullers -Cost- \$20/week plus deposit***

Chemical sprayers— Cost- \$5/week plus deposit***



PHOTO CREDIT: TSA #3, Nicholas Solomon

*** see rental contract for details.

Exotic Honeysuckles

(*Lonicera tartarica*, *L. morrowii*, *L. x bella*)

Why are exotic Honeysuckles bad?

- Exotic honeysuckle replace native forest shrubs and herbaceous plants by their invasive nature and early leaf-out. They shade out herbaceous ground cover and deplete soil moisture.
- Birds eat the berries, then spread the seeds in their droppings
- Some research suggests that the plant inhibits the growth of other plants in its vicinity.

How to Identify Honeysuckles:

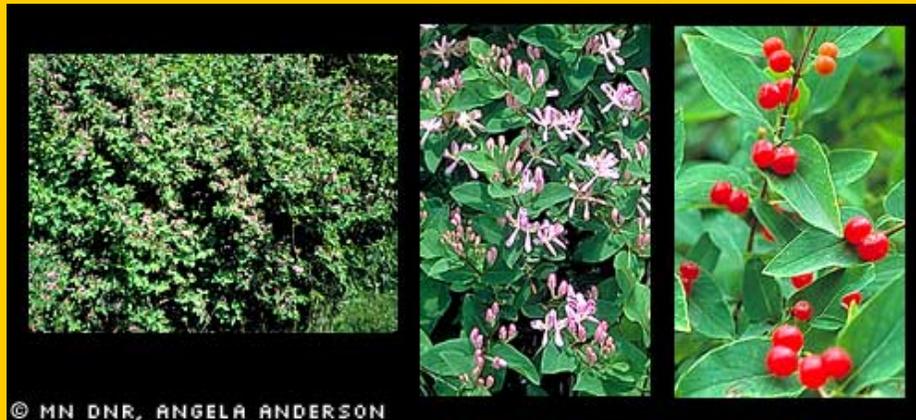
Appearance: Upright deciduous shrubs, 5 -12' high. Older stems have shaggy bark and are often hollow.

Leaves: Opposite, simple, oval, and untoothed. *L. tartarica* has smooth, hairless leaves, *L. morrowii* has downy leaves.

Flowers: Fragrant, tubular, bloom in May and June, white, red, but most often pink.

Fruit: Fruits are red, Orange or yellow, situated in pairs in the leaf axils.

Roots: Roots are fibrous and shallow.



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PHOTO CREDIT: Minnesota DNR, Angela Anderson

EXOTIC BUSH HONEYSUCKLES are native to Asia and western Europe. Tartarian honeysuckle was introduced to North America as an ornamental in 1752. The others were introduced in the late 1800's. Distribution is typically near large urban areas, but rural infestations have occurred where the species were introduced to provide wildlife with cover and a food source. Bush honeysuckles have naturalized from New England south to North Carolina and west to Iowa. Exotic honeysuckles have become widespread in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Their proliferation is due largely to horticultural plantings. However, there are pockets of infestation in rural areas where honeysuckles were planted to improve wildlife habitat.



PHOTO CREDIT: Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin

Control Methods:

Mechanical

Pulling seedlings in small infestations when soil is moist

Prescribed burning will kill seedlings and top kill mature shrubs, repeated burns may be needed to control infestations

Chemical

Cut-stump treatment with glyphosate; cut-stump or basal bark spray treatment around the stem with triclopyr

Foliage spraying with glyphosate solution, where burning is not possible, prior to leaf out of native species

BUCKTHORN

(*Rhamnus cathartica*)

Is buckthorn bad?

- Yes! It might appear harmless in residential yards, but it is destroying natural areas and is one of the most invasive species found in Minnesota
- Birds eat the berries, then spread the seeds in their droppings
- Bird droppings falling in natural areas grow into a dense wall of vegetation destroying wildlife habitat and ultimately become a quiet killer of native trees, wildflowers, and grasses
- It is documented that Buckthorn is the host of pests such as aphids and fungus that damage US cash crops.

How to Identify Buckthorn:

Leaves: Egg-shaped, pointed at the tip, smooth, dark, glossy and finely-toothed. 3-5 pair of curved leaf veins. Leaves stay green late into fall.

Branch: Buds and leaves are opposite. Twigs often end in sharp, stout thorns.

Wood: Brown bark with elongate silvery corky projections (caution: native plums or cherries have a similar bark). Cut branch exposes yellow sapwood and orange heartwood.

Fruit: Large, round, berry-like clusters of black 1/4" fruit. Ripens in August and September.



PHOTO CREDIT: Luke Skinner, Mark Muller, Minnesota DNR

Common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) was first brought to Minnesota from Europe in the mid-1800s as a very popular hedging material. Shortly after its introduction here, it was found to be quite invasive in natural areas. The nursery industry stopped selling it in the 1930s, but many buckthorn hedges may still be found in older neighborhoods throughout Minnesota.

What can you do?

- Remove all buckthorn from your property

Small buckthorn up to 3/8" can usually be pulled by hand, buckthorn up to 2.5" can be pulled with a special weed pulling tool.

If pulling individual buckthorn is not practical, they can be cut off at the soil surface and treated with a herbicide containing Triclopyr (such as Ortho Brush-B-Gon or Garlon 3A or 4) or Glyphosate (Roundup) to prevent re-sprouting.

Tools for pulling Buckthorn and tools for treating Buckthorn with herbicide are available at the Kanabec Soil and Water office for rental. (320)679-3982.

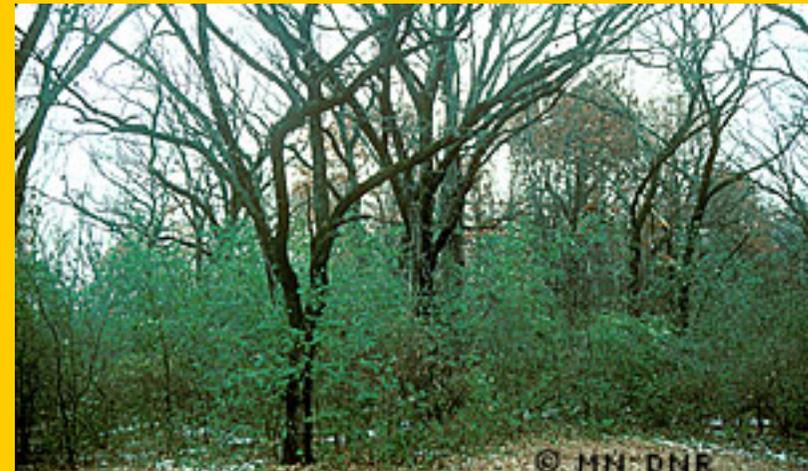


PHOTO CREDIT: Minnesota DNR

Buckthorn is designated as a restricted noxious weed in Minnesota. It's illegal to import, sell, or transport common or European buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) or glossy or alder buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*) in this state.