

Honeysuckle Challenge 2015

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO PARTICIPATE

You can make a difference by participating in the Honeysuckle Challenge from October 24th through November 1st!

- Conduct a survey to see if Eurasian Bush Honeysuckle is found on your property
- Control the Honeysuckle found. You can remove it through manual methods (uprooting plants or repeated cutting) or through chemical application (see link below for more information)
- Take BEFORE and AFTER photos to show the progress you made!
- Record your time it takes to remove Honeysuckle and email to: clerk@townofgibraltar.us
- If you need assistance in disposing of your honeysuckle cuttings? Call the Gibraltar Town Office at (920) 868-1714 to arrange for the Town to pick it up,
- Participants will be recognized on the Town of Gibraltar and Door County Invasive Species web pages
- Don't have any Honeysuckle? Volunteer to help a neighbor or help remove it from a park or natural area.

What are invasive species?

Invasive species are plants and animals which are non-native to our area, act aggressively in the way they grow or spread, and are likely to impact our economy, natural environment or health. In our area, these exotic pests lack predators or diseases that may control them in their native range. Since human actions are the primary means of invasive species introductions and spread, it is up to us to take steps to help protect our local biological diversity, scenic beauty and natural heritage.

What is honeysuckle and why is it bad?

Eurasian bush honeysuckles (*Lonicera* species) are species of invasive shrubs that were historically not found in North America, but are now common in a large range of habitats including forest edges, open woods, lakeshores, roadsides, pastures, and old fields. The berries of Eurasian bush honeysuckle can be spread great distances by birds and other wildlife that consume them. These shrubs are bad because they:

- Form dense stands that replace native shrubs and ground cover
- Prevent the growth of native seedlings and change our forests
- Deplete soil moisture and nutrients
- Release toxins that limit the growth of other plants around them
- Hinder recreational opportunities when areas become overrun

How to identify Eurasian bush honeysuckle:

- Upright, spreading shrubs that reach 7-16 feet tall
- Opposite leaf arrangement (each leaf is directly across from another on the stem)
- Entire leaves (the leaf edge is smooth and without teeth or serrations)
- Hold onto leaves long into the fall when other shrubs have dropped them
- Red or orange berries often paired on short stalks located along the stem
- Twigs may have ridges or appear 'shaggy'
- Exhibit arching stems that are hollow in the middle when cut

For More Information:

On identifying honeysuckle, visit <http://hort.uwex.edu/articles/invasive-plants-of-wisconsin-bush-honeysuckle/>.

On the control or management of honeysuckle, visit <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Assets/pdfs/A3924-03.pdf>.

Attend a workshop (details on reverse side) or contact the Door County Invasive Species Team Coordinator at dcist1@gmail.com or (920) 746-5955.



Town of Gibraltar
PO Box 850
Fish Creek, WI 54212

STD
U S POSTAGE PAID
FISH CREEK WI 54212
PERMIT NO. 5

BOXHOLDER

TAKE THE HONEYSUCKLE CHALLENGE! OCTOBER 24–NOVEMBER 1



The Town of Gibraltar has been busy removing Eurasian bush honeysuckle from its parks and lands in an effort to protect our native flowers and wildlife. Now you can help STOP the spread of honeysuckle by removing it from YOUR property. Take the Honeysuckle Challenge! Encourage your neighbors to take the Honeysuckle Challenge too!

For more information, see the inside of this flyer or www.townofgibraltar.com

Come to one of the free workshops hosted by the Door County Invasive Species Team:

October 24th and 28th, 2015

2:00pm at Fish Creek Park

If you are not able to attend these dates, and still need help identifying honeysuckle on your property, contact the Door County Invasive Species Team at dcist1@gmail.com or (920) 746-5955 to arrange a one-on-one visit.



Brought to you by the Town of Gibraltar
and the Door County Invasive Species Team
www.townofgibraltar.com
www.map.co.door.wi.us/swcd/invasive