



Photo: iMapInvasives



**WESTERN INVASIVES
NETWORK**

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*****NOXIOUS WEED ALERT*****

Garlic Mustard

Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) is a biennial in the Brassica family. Originally cultivated as a food crop, it has become one of the most invasive species in Oregon. Unfortunately, it is also one of the most difficult to eradicate and control.

Why is it a problem?

Garlic mustard is a prolific seed producer and can release over 60,000 seeds per square meter. With the ability to pollinate itself, one single plant can produce a large infestation in short order. Unlike many invasives, garlic mustard can invade healthy, intact forestlands and does not depend on bare soil or disturbance for establishment

Garlic mustard is also allelopathic. That is, it releases hormones into the soil that inhibit other species from growing. This allelopathy provides a large window of opportunity for its long lived, ever increasing seedbank.

Unlike some invasives, garlic mustard has no value to wildlife or insects. Furthermore, it displaces valuable native vegetation that is critical for forage, habitat and food-web integrity. As habitat loss and fragmentation continue to be a widespread challenge for managers, invasive weeds like garlic mustard make conservation and restoration even more difficult.

What Can You Do?

Garlic mustard is extremely difficult to eradicate once it is established. Manual removal can be effective on small populations. Take special care to remove all roots and dispose of properly.

Chemical treatments may be required for larger infestations. Please consult with your local SWCD or Noxious Weeds Dept. for guidance and always follow label directions.

For more info on garlic mustard:

[ODA Profile](#)

[Columbia Gorge BMP](#)

The Western Invasives Network is asking for your help in identifying populations of garlic mustard in Oregon.

How Do I Report Garlic Mustard?

Report Online at:

<https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/>

-or-

Call 1-866-INVADER

-or-

Contact [your local CWMA](#)



Garlic mustard monoculture in an Oregon forest understory. (Photo: Merekat)



Young garlic mustard in its first-year, rosette stage. There are multiple lookalikes at this stage, take special care when identifying. (Photo: Oregon State Parks)