

Don't confuse garlic mustard for these look-alikes!

Garlic Mustard



- * **Garlic smell**
(Key characteristic)
- * Leaf heart shaped
- * Coarsely toothed

Ground Ivy



- * Mint smell
- * Leaf heart shaped & rounded, bluntly toothed
- * Square stems

Violet



- * Leaf heart shaped
- * Teeth smaller, more regular
- * Sometimes hairy

Photo credit: 1. Vicki Simkovic, 2 & 3. John Foster

Pre & Post Monitoring & Restoration:

- * Take a photo before and after your control efforts to keep track of your success!
- * To improve success, consider re-seeding an area cleared of garlic mustard with native plants, or cover the area with leaves or mulch at least 5 cm thick to reduce or prevent garlic mustard germination.

To learn more about Environmentally Significant Areas (ESA) in London, visit London.ca/ESA, or contact City Planning at (519) 661-4980, planning@london.ca. Visit NeighbourGoodLondon.ca/programs to get involved with your community.

Prepared by the Ontario Invasive Plant Council with the assistance of the City of London and funding provided by the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation. Special thanks to the City of Toronto and the Thames Talbot Land Trust for their input.



Adopt-a-Patch Garlic Mustard: A How-To Guide for Removal

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TD Friends of the Environment Foundation



Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)

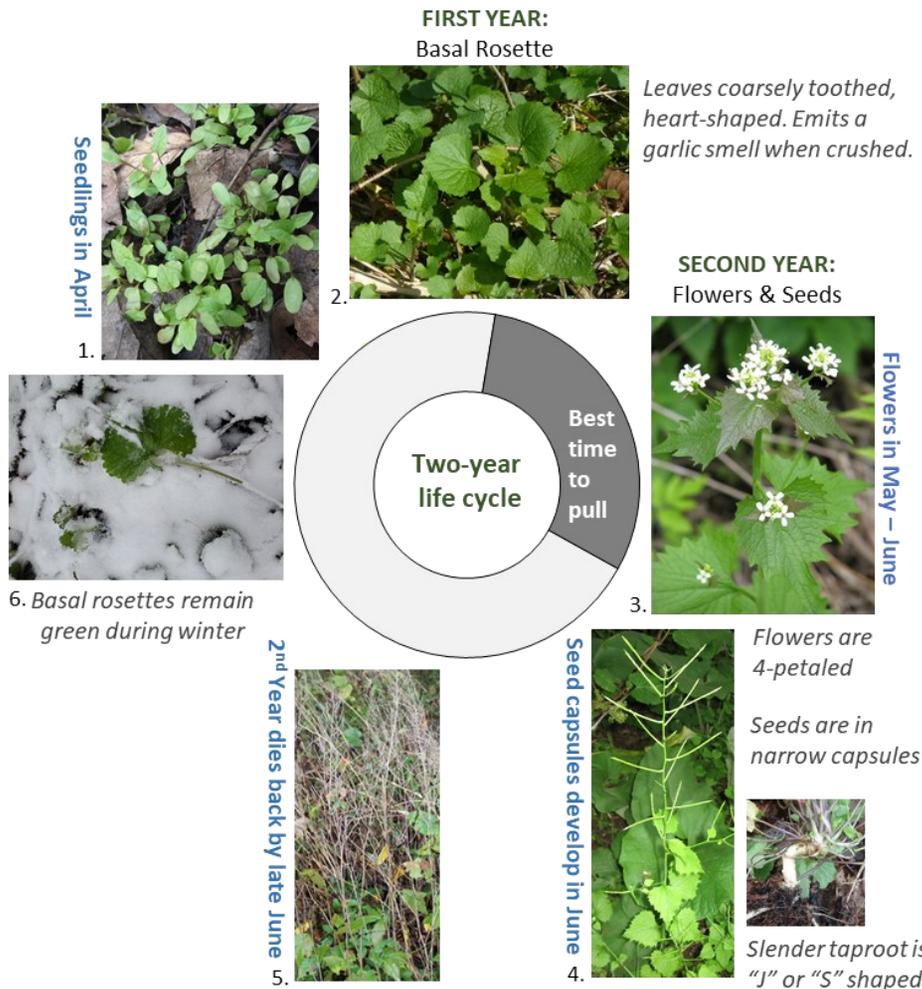


Photo credit: 1. Vicki Simkovic, 2. John Foster, 3. Ken Towle, 4. CVCA, 5. Conner Ferguson, 6. Jordan Porciello

Why is Garlic Mustard a Threat?

- * It can out-compete native plants and reduce biodiversity in natural areas
- * Roots release chemicals in the soil that inhibit fungi and other plants
- * Seeds prolifically and the seeds are viable in the soil for 5-10 years.

Tips for Hand Pulling Garlic Mustard:

- * Pull out plants before or during flower, and before they set seed.
- * Focus on depleting the seed bank by controlling second-year plants.
- * Remove the outlying populations (isolated plants or satellite populations) first to prevent further spread.
- * Grasp the plant at the base and pull out the entire root to prevent re-sprouting. If roots are damaged but not entirely removed, it can still flower and set seed.
- * Pulling is easier when the soil is soft after some rainfall. A trowel or similar tool can assist in removing the entire root. Try to minimize soil disturbance.
- * Continue control measures at the same site more than once in a season and for at least five years to deplete the seed bank. If done only once, this could increase garlic mustard densities by stimulating seed germination through soil disturbance.

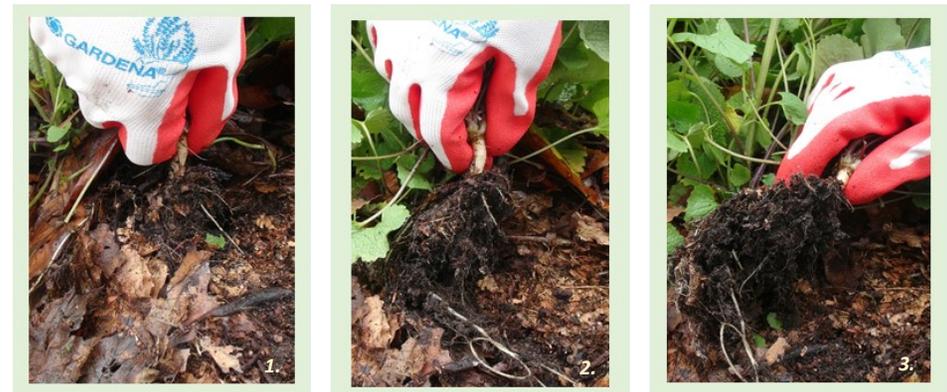


Photo credit: Vicki Simkovic

Disposal:

- * Dispose plant material in the garbage using a black plastic bag or yard waste bag. Do not put them in compost or discard them in natural areas. Discarded flowers may produce seeds.
- * Garlic mustard is edible! Try a recipe for [pesto](#) (available online)

For more information about invasive garlic mustard control, visit the Ontario Invasive Plant Council website at www.OntarioInvasivePlants.ca.