

Yellow Archangel

Lamium galeobdolon

Mint Family

Non-Designated Noxious Weed: Control Recommended

Identification Tips

- Fast-growing perennial ground cover that may be either trailing or upright depending on conditions
- Leaves are typically variegated with silvery-grey markings and are oval-shaped and toothed
- Flowers are small, yellow and tubular; they grow in pairs of clusters close to stems between leaves
- Oils in leaves have a distinct odor

Biology

- Flowers between April and June
- Reproduces vegetatively from nodes on stems as well as stem fragments; also spreads by seed
- Grows in dense patches and tends to be viny; may also climb up and over other plants or stand upright when grown in full sun
- Will grow back more densely after being cut

Impacts

- When it escapes from residential plantings, becomes invasive, forming dense patches
- Outcompetes native plant species
- Provides little or no food and shelter for native wildlife

Distribution

- Found in ravines, greenbelts and forested parks as well as residential settings such as flower gardens, rockeries and ornamental borders
- Can grow in a wide range of conditions from full sun to full shade

Fact sheet reprinted with permission from the King County Noxious Weed Control Program.



Variegated variety has silvery-grey markings on leaves.



Once this plant escapes into natural areas, it forms dense patches and crowds out beneficial native plants.

Questions?

Call the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board at:
360-427-9670, ext. 592



What You Can Do

While there is no legal requirement for controlling yellow archangel in Mason County, the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board recognizes that this plant is invasive and is collecting information and providing education on control. The Board encourages and recommends control of existing populations especially in natural areas and forests.

Control Methods

For best results, control methods should be adaptive and employed throughout several growing seasons.

Prevention: This plant is still available for sale at nurseries and other retail outlets, but it is recommended that landowners choose other ground cover plants. If you already have this plant and would like to minimize its invasive nature, contain in flower beds by regular trimming or dig up and replant into pots.

Because yellow archangel spreads readily by stem cuttings, it is very important to discard plant material in such a way as to prevent spreading. Never dump clippings in parks or natural areas. Furthermore, avoid planting near forests and other natural areas where it can escape and become invasive. Don't dispose of plants in backyard compost piles (okay to put into city provided "Clean Green" recycling bins since the yard waste is taken to a commercial composting operation).

Manual: Roots are not deep so plants can be hand-pulled fairly easily. To fully remove, plants must be pulled up by the roots, being careful to remove all root and stem fragments. This is easiest to do fall through early spring.

Mechanical: Cutting alone will not control this plant.

Chemical: Herbicides can be effective on yellow archangel, especially if combined with manual control and monitoring for surviving plants. **Choose a formulation that is appropriate for the site: either aquatic or terrestrial. Follow the label exactly as written and only use at the rate that is prescribed on the label.** Products containing glyphosate are effective when applied in the summer and fall when temperature are above 54 degrees F. Glyphosate is absorbed by the growing leaves (not woody stems). However, glyphosate is "non-selective" and will injure any foliage that it comes in contact with. Selective broadleaf herbicides with the active ingredient triclopyr work well for lawn areas as they won't harm most grasses. Repeat on re-growth and seedlings the following year. Chemical control options may differ for private, commercial and government agency users. For questions about herbicide use, contact the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board.



Prevention is one of the best ways to keep this plant from becoming a problem in parks and natural areas; avoid planting near such sites or choose a different ground cover.