

Mason County Noxious Weed Control

Mint Family

Yellow Archangel

Lamium galeobdolon

Identification Tips

- Fast growing ground cover, will grow upright or trailing.
- Can form dense carpets or mats.
- Opposite oval shaped leaves, typically with silvery grey variegation. Leaves are hairy and have serrated edges.
- Small, yellow flowers that grow in clusters.
- Distinct square shaped stem.
- Underside of leaf develops purple coloring in cold conditions.



Non-Regulated Class B Noxious Weed: Control Recommended

Biology

- Flowers from April to June.
- Evergreen to semi-evergreen perennial ground cover.
- Spreads by seed and vegetatively, can re-root from nodes and stem fragments.
- When in full sun, this plant will grow upright instead of trailing along ground.
- Flowers produce four brown to black nutlets, each with one seed.

Impacts

- Climbs over native plants, impeding their growth and development.
- Forms dense mats in area outcompeting and reducing cover of beneficial native plants.
- Provides little to no food or habitat to native wildlife.

Distribution

- This plant is native to Asia and Europe.
- It was a popular choice for hanging baskets and as a ground cover in gardens.
- Yellow archangel will grow in sunny or shaded conditions.
- It is commonly found infesting ravines, natural areas, green belts, forested and riparian areas.
- Prefers well drained soil, but will grow in most soil types.



Yellow archangel infestation in local riparian area.

QUESTIONS? Contact Mason County Noxious Weed Control at:

(360) 427-9670 ext. 592 or patriciag@co.mason.wa.us

<https://extension.wsu.edu/mason/natural-resources/noxious-weed-program/>

What You Can Do

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

Control Methods

Do not dump yard debris containing yellow archangel anywhere. New infestations often start from improperly disposed of yard waste. Survey your yard and surrounding natural areas to identify yellow archangel infestations. Manual control can be effective, however it must be thorough and done often to ensure all stem nodes and roots have been removed. Control must be carried out over several growing seasons to ensure that the infestation is eradicated.

Prevention

It is illegal to transport or buy yellow archangel. This plant spreads quickly through cuttings, do not dump yard waste containing this plant in yard, compost or natural areas. If you have yellow archangel growing in your garden or hanging baskets dispose of plant material using suggested methods.

Manual Control

Hand-pulling will work as a control method for this plant species. Be careful to avoid breaking stems and roots. Plants are most easily pulled when ground is moist. Place plants in sealed plastic bag and put in garbage. **Do not place in compost or dispose of in landscape or natural areas, as plants can easily re-root from nodes.** Revisit location regularly to check for regrowth and new germinates. Replant with native species to add competition.



This plant can quickly out-compete native vegetation. Here is yellow archangel growing over thimble berry.

Things to plant instead

Try these non-invasive alternatives in your garden!



Wild strawberry
(*Fragaria* sp.)



Kinnikinnick
(*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*)



Redwood sorrel
(*Oxalis oregana*)



False lily-of-the-Valley
(*Maianthemum dilatatum*)

Mechanical

Sheet mulching can prevent plants from spreading. This is done by laying down newspaper/cardboard, then covering with 3-4 inches of mulch. The entire area must be covered and monitored regularly for growth through, especially around mulch edges.

Chemical

Choose a formulation that is appropriate for your site. Follow the label exactly as written and use only at rate prescribed. Do not apply herbicide over or near water bodies.

Spot spraying with herbicide is an effective method of control when combined with monitoring and follow-up manual control. Systemic herbicides containing triclopyr or imazapyr work well at controlling this plant. Care should always be taken when applying herbicide to avoid damage to non-target plant species. Imazapyr and other non-selective herbicides will damage all plant species, including grasses. A selective herbicide containing triclopyr will avoid injury to grasses. Herbicide is most effective when applied to actively growing foliage that is not drought stressed.

Contact the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board with questions about herbicide application.

