

COMMON BUCKTHORN MANAGEMENT:

An IPM Guide for Montana

The following was developed by Montana’s managers in conjunction with the efforts of the Woody Invasives Working Group. These best practices should be utilized to achieve your management goals of suppression, containment, or eradication. Decontamination of equipment and boots should be incorporated to ensure common buckthorn is not moved between project sites.



Best Management Practices*	WINTER			SPRING			SUMMER			FALL		
	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November
Seasonal Identification Characteristics	Gently scraping the bark reveals a bright yellow cambium.											
Manual May suppress, contain, or eradicate depending on density. Utilize flagging to distinguish between lookalike species.				Hand pulling is easiest in spring with moist soils.			Manual or mechanical removal is effective when followed with spot treatments. Consider before plants go to seed.			Identification may be easiest for volunteers in fall.		
Herbicide** Effective for containment and eradication objectives.	Avoid cut-stump applications in negative temperatures.						Foliar applications (plants < 6' tall) must occur in the active growing season.			Cut-stump applications are highly effective and easy to identify in fall.		
Cultural Suppression only, unless paired with other practices	Use of prescribed fire is best suited for young plants in open areas. Repeat once every 3 years.											
				Goats may graze young plants. Good for limited access areas.						Best practice: Follow-up grazing in fall.		

*An effective, targeted biological control agent is not available for common buckthorn management efforts.

**See next page for herbicide recommendations and considerations.

FOLLOW-UP MANAGEMENT ACTIONS ARE CRITICAL FOR SUCCESS!

Continue monitoring the project site for at least 5 years.

- Monitoring may occur year-round, but ID is easiest in the fall.
- Utilize mapping and/or flagging to mark treatment sites.
- Document re-treatment efforts.
- Pull or treat weeds that emerge from the seed bank to allow native species to thrive.

Consider the following post-treatment site clean-up:

- In areas of low density with plants that don't bear fruit/seeds, lop branches and scatter them at the site.
- If masticating, leave material to stifle regrowth (i.e., "Cover It Up!").
- In public areas, consider hauling materials off-site for destruction.
- In areas of high density, make slash piles and burn after 1 year of drying.

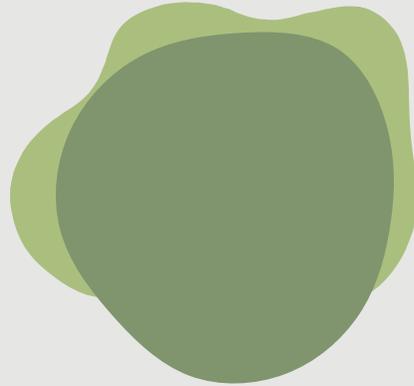
EMPLOYING INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM):

Utilizing IPM maximizes effectiveness by employing multiple management strategies at a given site. A project site is likely to dictate which management strategies are most appropriate. The possibilities are vast; below is an example:

HEAVILY-RECREATED SUBURBAN PARK:

 Large, older common buckthorn that are difficult to access

 Dense growth of young common buckthorn



- Contract mastication for the dense growth area prior to plants going to seed, allowing for access to patch of older common buckthorn. Flag native species within patch for avoidance.
- Leave masticated materials to “Cover It Up!”
- Utilize cut-stump treatments with foam-tipped daubers and dye on older common buckthorn in fall.
- Pile materials for burning (burn the following winter).
- Monitor annually. Manually remove seedlings.
- Re-treat as necessary: Stumps in fall with basal bark application. Spot treat masticated area with foliar application in growing season.

HERBICIDE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Application Type	Herbicide
Basal Bark	Triclopyr
Cut-Stump	Aminopyralid Imazapyr Triclopyr
Foliar	Triclopyr
Injection/Girdling	Glyphosate Imazapyr

- All proper licenses and permits must be obtained.
- Read labels carefully - the label is the law! For specific guidance on ratios, use/need of surfactants, etc., consult the manufacturer's label and/or a local technical professional (e.g., Extension agent, county weed coordinator, MDA staff).
- Aquatic formulations of herbicide and surfactants must be used near water.

COMMON BUCKTHORN

Woody Invasive Species



bugwood.org
5473426



bugwood.org
5456165

COMMON CHOKECHERRY

Native Species



Peter M. Dziuk
MNWildflowers.info



Katy Chayka
MNWildflowers.info

HAVE QUESTIONS?

For additional information, consult the Statewide Management Plan or contact:

- Your Local Extension Office
- Your Local Weed District
- MT Dept of Agriculture:
(406) 444-3144 or agrweeds@mt.gov