



BRANDYWINE
CONSERVANCY

Preserving Our
Land & Water

IDENTIFY

WINGED EUONYMUS

(*Euonymus alatus*)

Winged euonymus poses a **threat to woodland and meadow** habitats, often forming dense thickets and **shading out native species**.

WINGED EUONYMUS | James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org

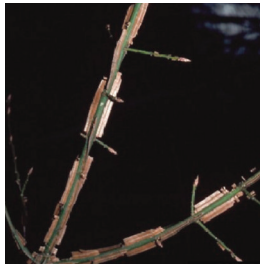


CHARACTERISTICS

Winged euonymus is also known commonly as burning bush because of its vibrant red foliage in the fall. It is a deciduous shrub in the *Celastraceae* family that can grow to be 15–20 feet in height, but is normally 5–10 feet. The branches are green or brown with prominent “wings.” The leaves are dark green, tapering to a point. The flowers are pale green and inconspicuous, coming out in late spring. The fruit is a small red-purple berry that matures in late summer. Euonymus spreads through both vegetative means and seed dispersal.

WHERE FROM

A native of northeast Asia, Japan and central China, winged euonymus was introduced to the United States around 1860 as an ornamental shrub primarily for its hardiness and striking fall foliage.



WINGED EUONYMUS “WINGS”
Leslie J. Mehrhoff,
University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

WHERE FOUND

This invasive shrub can be found in 25 states. It grows in a variety of habitats including forests, woods, pastures and roadsides. It does best in well-drained soils but can also tolerate wet areas and grows in full shade to full sun.



WINGED EUONYMUS FALL FOLIAGE
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CONTROL

CHEMICAL METHOD

Using a 2% glyphosate (e.g., *Roundup*) mixture, apply to leaves in fall being careful not to spray desirable plants. Or, cut plants and “paint” *Garlon* or glyphosate directly on the cut stump to control regrowth.

MANUAL METHOD

Pull small plants in moist soil. Mowing or cutting will suppress growth. Cutting multiple times per season is recommended to curb resprouting.

REMEMBER

When removing, **be careful** not to remove or destroy desirable species.

Do not confuse with native strawberry bush (*Euonymus americanus*) or native wahoo (*Euonymus atropurpureus*).

REPLANT

Once eradicated in an area, be sure to restore by planting native species.

USE CARE

When spraying herbicides around water sources, use only those approved for use in wetlands.

(Read and follow all herbicide labels carefully before use.)

SOURCES
U.S. Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, Plant Conservation Alliance (www.nps.gov/plants/)
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, National Agricultural Library (www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/)
Pennsylvania Dept. of Conservation of Natural Resources (www.dcnr.state.pa.us/)
Univ. of Georgia Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health (www.invasive.org/)