

THE BIOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT OF GARLIC MUSTARD. David Borneman, Natural Area Preservation Manager, Ann Arbor, MI.

Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) is a biennial herb introduced from Europe in the mid-19th century for food and medicinal purposes. In the central and eastern part of the US and adjacent Canada, it has proven highly invasive, especially in moist woodlands where it displaces native wildflowers. Garlic mustard spreads only by seeds, which are dispersed mainly by water, people, or on the fur or feet of animals. For small infestations, hand-pulling every year until the seedbank is depleted can be an effective strategy. But this quickly becomes impractical as populations grow. Burning and cutting have been tried with mixed results. Others have found effective control with various herbicides including glyphosate, triclopyr, and 2,4-D. For many frustrated land managers, hope lies in four weevils (*Ceutorhynchus* sp.) being developed as biocontrol agents. This talk will address the natural history of garlic mustard, the pros and cons of various control strategies, and an update on biocontrol efforts.