

## Stewardship Network Notes

10 April 07

Bruegger's Bagels

*The Stewardship Network meets the second Tuesday of the month at Bruegger's Bagels on North University, UM--Ann Arbor Campus, from 7:30 to 8:30 AM. The same topic is repeated on the third Thursday of the month at The Nonprofit Enterprise at Work (NEW) Center, 1100 N. Main, Ann Arbor, from 12:00 to 1:00 PM.*

### Topic: Dealing with Herbacious Invasives

Despite the general topic, discussion dealt mostly with **garlic mustard**. In a sinister way and for undetermined reasons, the garlic mustard cotyledons (first growth of a new plant) are out earlier this year, and plants are bolting (producing seed) earlier than ever before.

### Torching

--most effective with garlic mustard's first year's growth. By the second year, torching makes the plant harder to pull, and stimulates the root system.

### Herbicide

--effective, especially in dense infestions where the natives are suppressed. --Roundup should never be used in wetlands; substitute Accord.

--also effective in late fall after the natives have disappeared, but will also eliminate evergreen natives, such as hepatica.

--add surfactant to herbicide for use on **vinca**, as the waxy leaf surface tends to repel and exclude the herbicide. Most effective on the year's new growth, which hasn't developed the surface armor yet.

### References

--Michigan Native Plant Producers Association has a listing of all native plant nurseries in Michigan.

--The Nature Conservancy has information and pictures of invasives on its "weeds" site--  
<http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/>

--forestrysupplier.com supplies any tool your heart can desire

--Elizabeth J. Czarapata, Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest (University of Wisconsin Press, 2005) shows pictures of invasives at every stage of growth, and discusses the most effective means of eliminating them.

--USDA Invasive Plants Field and Reference Guide,

[http://www.na.fs.fed.us/pubs/misc/ip/ip\\_field\\_guide.pdf](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/pubs/misc/ip/ip_field_guide.pdf)

--Midwest Invasive Plant Network provides downloadable high- and low resolution fliers at [http://www.na.fs.fed.us/pubs/misc/ip/ip\\_field\\_guide.pdf](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/pubs/misc/ip/ip_field_guide.pdf)