

Winged Euonymus or Burning Bush

(Euonymus alatus)

DESCRIPTION

Multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with distinctive corky wings on stems; common ornamental

Height: 6-15 feet high

Leaves: Opposite elliptic shaped (1 to 3" long), fine sharp serrations on edge. Dark green leaves turn brilliant red-purple in fall.

Flowers: Inconspicuous, small, yellowish green, blooms in late spring

Fruit: Smooth, purplish ½" long, splits open in fall to expose red-orange seeds



ECOLOGICAL THREAT

Seeds widely dispersed by birds

Forms dense stands in old fields, open woods and mature forests

Out-competes and displaces native plants, reduces wildlife habitat and forage

NATIVE ALTERNATIVES

Aronia arbutifolia Red Chokeberry

Clethra alnifolia Summersweet Clethra

Ilex verticillata Common Winterberry

Viburnum opulus var. americanum Cranberrybush Viburnum

CONTROL



Mechanical: Seedlings up to 2 feet can be hand pulled. Larger plants can be dug out. Repeated mowing or cutting will control but not eradicate it.

Chemical: Cut to the ground and treat the stump with undiluted Roundup or triclopyr.