

Multiflora Rose

(Rosa multiflora)

DESCRIPTION

Thorny deciduous shrub with arching stems

Height: Up to 10 feet

Leaves: Divided into 5 to 11 sharply toothed leaflets

Flowers: White to pink 1" blooms appear May-June

Fruit: Small bright red berries (rose hips) develop during the summer



ECOLOGICAL THREAT

Seeds remain viable in the soil for up to 20 years

Individual plants produce up to 500,000 seeds per year, spread by birds and small mammals

Plants may grow 1 to 2 feet per week to form impenetrable thickets

Displaces native plants and reduces wildlife habitat and forage

NATIVE ALTERNATIVES

Aronia arbutifolia Red Chokeberry

Clethra alnifolia Summersweet Clethra

Rosa carolina Carolina Rose. Pasture Rose

Rosa virginiana Virginia Rose



CONTROL

Extremely difficult to eradicate due to seed bank in soil

Mechanical: Small, scattered plants can be dug up if all roots are removed. Large patches can be mowed 3 to 6 times per year for 2 to 4 years

Chemical: Spray foliage with Roundup after flowering, until fall, or with triclopyr in spring before flowering

Alternatively, cut stems in fall and immediately apply undiluted triclopyr to cut