

# Privet

(*Ligustrum obtusifolium*, *L. ovalifolium*, *vulgare*)

## DESCRIPTION

Multi-stemmed deciduous shrub

**Height:** Up to 30 feet

**Leaves:** Opposite, oval to elliptic, less than 2 ½" long, thick and leathery

**Flowers:** Fragrant, small, white, 4-lobed tube in June

**Fruit:** Round, pale green, ripening to black, ¼" long, develops late summer



## ECOLOGICAL THREAT

Spreads by root sprouts and by birds and other animals disbursing seed  
Found along roadsides, old fields, and woodlands in full sun to full shade  
Dense thickets displace native plants and reduce wildlife habitat and forage

## NATIVE ALTERNATIVES

*Physocarpus opulifolius* Common Ninebark

*Thuja occidentalis* Eastern Arborvitae. White Cedar

*Viburnum prunifolium* Blackhaw Viburnum



## CONTROL

**Mechanical:** Hand pulling small plants is effective if entire root is removed.

Cutting mature plants will control spread but not eradicate it.

**Chemical:** Spray foliage with Roundup or treat freshly cut stumps with undiluted triclopyr in late summer to mid-fall.