

Noxious Weed Alert

Garlic Mustard

Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)

Mustard Family



GARLIC MUSTARD FLOWER
Leslie J. Mehrhoff, U Conn., Bugwood.org



GARLIC MUSTARD ROSETTES
Chris Evans, River to River CWMA, Bugwood.org



GARLIC MUSTARD INFESTATION
Leslie J. Mehrhoff, Univ. of Conn., Bugwood.org

Summit and Salt Lake Counties have received a state funded grant to help control this weed in our area.

Noxious weed specialists will be targeting strategic infestations in your neighborhood to try to stop the spread of this weed to our valuable open spaces and wildlife habitat.

As a result, you may be contacted again to ask for your help with this spreading and threatening noxious weed.

If you have questions or know where some small isolated populations of this weed may be, please call Jack Marchant (Summit County Weed Supervisor) at 435-640-4188 (jackmarchant@summitcounty.org) or Mindy Wheeler (Summit County Weed Board) at 801-699-5459 (wheelermindy@yahoo.com)

Distinguishing Features:

- ❶ **Flowers:** Small, four petaled white flowers clustered at the top of a single stem.
- ❷ **Seeds / Roots:** Prolific seed producer. The root has a distinctive “L” or “S” shape just below the stem.
- ❸ **Leaves:** Rosette leaves are kidney shaped with scalloped edges. Mature stem leaves are triangular and become increasingly smaller towards the tip. In the spring, new leaves have a prominent garlic smell.
- ❹ **Flowering Time:** May - June after the first year.

- ⑥ **Life cycle:** Low lying rosettes are produced from seed the first year and stay green throughout the winter. The second year, the rosettes grow to erect 4 ft stalks, flower and produce seed.

Impacts:

- Produces chemicals that inhibit the growth of other plants, fungi, and butterfly larvae.
- Displaces native plants due to its aggressive mat-like growth habit.
- On Summit County's 'A' list (highest priority) for control

Control:

- For mature plants, hand pulling in the spring *before seed production* is the most effective form of control for small infestations.
- Dispose of the stems and flowers from the site, as pulled plants left on the ground can still produce viable seed.
- For rosettes, *hand pulling is not recommended*, as the stems tend to break off at ground level and the plants re-sprout.
- Mulching with several inches of mulch such as wood chips has been shown to be a highly effective control method. The edges must be monitored.
- For large infestations, spraying in the spring or fall with glyphosate (such as roundup) has shown to be the most effective form of control. Garlic mustard overwinters as a rosette and is one the last remaining green plants late in the fall and first to show green in the spring. Treating with glyphosate at this time is the most effective and least harmful to other plants as most other plants are still dormant. Products containing 2, 4-D (such as Crossbow or Weed-be-gone) do not significantly control garlic mustard.

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Summit County Public Works Department
Weed Department

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