

Honeysuckle Removal Procedures

Cut and Treat (Highly Recommended)

Honeysuckle should be cut as close to the ground as possible while also taking into consideration visibility needs. Stumps should then be immediately treated with herbicide to prevent regrowth. In temperatures above 40°F use 5% glyphosate solution; adding dye is a great way to help indicate which stumps have been treated. We suggest using the Mark-It Blue® dye for the most vivid and consistent coloration. In temperatures below 40°F use Triclopyr mixed to manufacturer's specifications. Again, dye is recommended for use as an indicator. Apply with a brush for precision accuracy or backpack sprayer for ease and speed. For a quick, no mix solution, use Garlon or Tordon RTU (ready to use).

Foliar Spraying (Recommended)

Foliar spray is best used in cases where large acreage must be covered (3+ acres). This method is a quick alternative to the slower method of stump treatment, though much care must be used during application. There is a period in the fall where honeysuckle is the only thing with green leaves; this is the time to spray. A 2%-4% glyphosate solution with surfactant is required. ***(If applying near a waterway you must use an aquatic labeled herbicide and surfactant)*** A high volume pump with a precision spray tip can be used to direct the spray onto the leaves of the plant. A light mist over the top is sufficient, be careful to not over apply or drip onto surrounding vegetation.

Pulling (Somewhat Recommended)

Pulling small shrubs can be easily tackled with a honeysuckle removal tool. Shallow root systems allow for easy removal. Other options could involve using a tractor to pull them out. The least invasive way is going to be using special tools; equipment disturbing the earth can lead to other invasive plants to take over.

Chipping/Mulching (Not Recommended)

Many forestry contractors advertise the use of forestry machines to mulch up honeysuckle. These machines can kill small tree seedlings and heavily disturb the ground allowing for more erosion or another invasive species to move into place. The splintering action of these machines only allows honeysuckle to come back with vengeance in the spring, often with many more sprouts than existed originally. Butler SWCD does not recommend forestry machines due to their aggressive nature and threat to other native plants.

Follow manufacturer's instructions for all products regarding mixing and PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) Recommendations given by Butler SWCD are based on staff experiences, further professional advice can be solicited from a licensed consulting forester.

