

# Basal Bark – Hints

- Spray band about shin- or knee-high for best results, but height is not critical
- Get a light spray on the root collar and any exposed roots for larger trees (2+” dia) to minimize resprouts
- Spray the crotches of larger trees that might be made up multiple trunks grown together
- For shoots smaller than 1” dia, spraying one side is sufficient
- If small enough to bend the shoot over, just drip enough to run around the stem

# Basal Bark – When?

- Works fine anytime
- Fall/Winter may be better, spring slightly less effective
- Do **not** spray when temps are over 80°F, - volatilizes
- Winter applications work
  - May leaf out in spring, then die
  - Hard to get to the root collar
- When leaves are green, it is easier to see what was missed a few weeks later

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- If you leave the dead trees lay, it is hard to continue your work, so best to pile, chip or burn dead trees

# Brush Piles

- Logs can be used for firewood
- Live, fresh cut buckthorn is tough to start burning
- Honeysuckle makes a good starter
- Seasoned, dead buckthorn burns hot
- If you can do so safely, burn as you work (winter or after a controlled burn)
- Pile brush as parallel as possible for future burning
- Piles may become critter habitat

# General Follow-up

- Resprouts
  - Untreated cut stumps, burned shoots will re-sprout prolifically
  - Get them while small
  - If a stump was cut but not treated, a conical spray of basal bark mix over the stump works great
- Seedbank
  - If you have buckthorn, you have seeds in the soil
  - Seeds in the soil may continue to sprout for 5+ years
  - Brand new seedlings can be pulled, sprayed, or burned
- Controlled Burn
  - Will kill new seedlings from the seed bank



## General Follow-up *(cont'd)*

- Foliar Spray
  - For thick growth of resprouts or new seedlings
- Planting
  - Watch to see what comes back on its own
  - Watch and address new weeds
  - Plant new, hopefully with natives
  - Be careful of “natives” that are not really native, or problematically aggressive

# Herbicides

## *Limit the Chemical Effects*

- Choose the right herbicide, tested for the purpose
- Read the directions, cautions, etc
- Use the correct concentration of mix  
*(stronger is not necessarily more effective)*
- Limit drips and overspray
- Use herbicides that break down quickly into harmless components

# Triclopyr 4 with Oil

For:

- Basal bark treatment
- Cut stumps
- “Spritz”

Effect:

- Broadleaf killer, but oil may smother grasses & sedges
- Very effective, ie., a little bit goes a long way

# Triclopyr 4 with Oil *(cont'd)*

What I've used:

- Pre-mixed: Pathfinder II
- Mix myself in bulk:  
Triclopyr 4 (1 part) with oil (4 parts)
- Triclopyr 4 brand name: Garlon 4
- Generics available, including Element 4

*NOTE: Triclopyr 4 is different from Triclopyr 3a which is formulated to mix with water, and will not penetrate tree bark.*

# Triclopyr 4 with Oil *(cont'd)*

## Oil Options:

- Specialty vegetable oils, – most expensive
- Bark Oil Blue:
  - developed for basal bark treatments
  - Basal Red is similar, but more expensive
- Diesel, - least expensive, very available

# Triclopyr 4 with Oil *(cont'd)*

Where to get it?

- Agricultural Supply Sources
- My source is CPS (Crop Production Services),  
in DeForest, near Madison

Hint:

Use a dedicated sprayer, or be sure sprayer is completely dry. A few drops of water will create a gel clump that will clog the sprayer