

## Background:

Amur and Bella (Bush) Honeysuckle are native to eastern Asia. They were originally introduced in the 1800's as landscape ornamentals. They stand out in the forest understory by being one of the first shrubs to leaf out in the spring and the last to lose their leaves in the fall.



Bush Honeysuckle in early spring before treatment

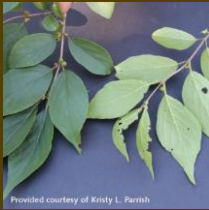
# Bush Honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*) (*Lonicera X bella*)

## Impact on Native Habitat:

Bush Honeysuckle grows densely shading out virtually all native vegetation on the forest floor, often leaving nothing but bare soil. This results in a great reduction of food and cover available for wildlife. Infestations can inhibit tree growth and tree regeneration. They also compete for soil moisture, nutrients, increase erosion, and may alter soil chemistry killing surrounding vegetation. Bush Honeysuckle spreads by seed and root suckering.

## Identification

**Leaves:** These upright shrubs with arching branches normally attain a height of 6 to 20 feet, with leaves 2 to 3 inches long. Leaves are oppositely arranged along the stem, have long pointed tips that are narrowly elliptical and a green surface with the underside being a pale green and lightly fuzzy.



Provided courtesy of Kristy L. Parrish

**Stems:** The stems are grayish-brown with short hairs on younger stems; older, larger stems have broad ridges and grooves and appear striped



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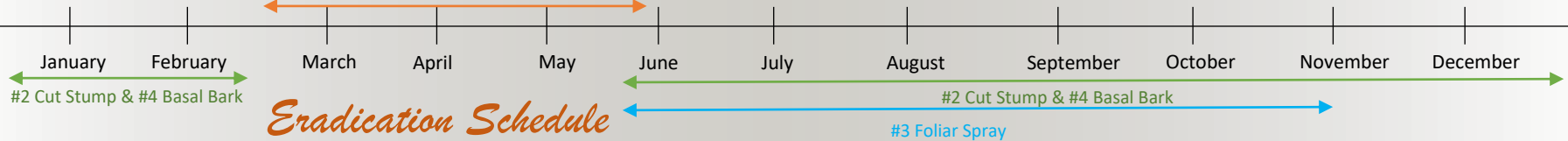
**Flowers:** In spring, fragrant paired tubular 1 inch long flowers with narrow petals appear. These flowers are white or sometimes pink but become yellowish as the flowers age



**Fruits:** The fruits mature in September and October; typically red berries are produced in pairs near the origin of the leaves. Each berry contains two to six seeds which are distributed by birds and mammals. The seeds germinate in shade of a forest canopy or direct sunlight.



Heavy Spring Sap Flow



## How to Kill: Eradication

- 1. Hand pulling-** When the plant is small and the soil is moist, hand pulling is an option if the entire plant can be removed, including the roots. This is a very labor intensive method, requiring surveying the same acreage year after year to pull the resprouts.
- 2. Cut Stump method-** This involves cutting the stem(s) off near ground level and applying (painting) a 50% concentration, by volume, of Glyphosate solution with a brush to thoroughly cover the freshly cut area.

**3. Foliar spray-** This involves spraying the leaves with a solution of properly labeled herbicide plus a non-ionic surfactant, which improves the chemicals ability to adhere and absorb into the plant. This method should be used during the active growing season so care should be taken to avoid spraying non-target species.

**4. Basal Bark Method-** This consists of spraying a mixture of 25% Triclopyr ester and 75% Basal Oil to the bush's stems to a height of 12 to 15 inches from ground level. Thorough wetting is necessary for good control. (This method is effective but shouldn't be used in the spring while the leaves are emerging and sap is flowing upward in stems.)



Bush Honeysuckle after treatment