

Alternatives to buckthorn:

Once you have removed buckthorn, there are several good alternatives for replacement. Many native shrubs provide shelter and berries for wildlife, as well as a colorful addition to your yard. Some suggestions are:

Dogwood (Silky, gray, or red-twiggid)

Red Cedar

Speckled Alder

Serviceberry

High-bush Cranberry

American hazelnut

Nannyberry

Arrowwood

Chokeberry



Red-Twigged
Dogwood



Highbush
Cranberry

Disposal Methods:

Brush can be burned on site, but be sure to follow the city burning ordinances.

Brush can also be brought to the following compost sites:

- The Mulch Store 952-736-1915
1030 W. Cliff Road, Burnsville
- B & D Wood Recycling and Compost 507-645-4279
Hwy 23 (Cedar) and 280th St. West, Castle Rock
- SMSC Organics Recycling Facility 952-403-7030
1905 Canterbury Rd., Shakopee

For more information:

City of Lakeville

Environmental Resources Department

20195 Holyoke Ave.

Lakeville, MN 55044

Phone: (952) 985-4528

What you can do to
help protect Lakeville's
Woodlands



Controlling Common Buckthorn



What is Buckthorn?

Buckthorn is a non-native shrub or small tree that crowds out native plants for light, nutrients, and moisture. It also:

- Degrades wildlife habitat and diversity
- Smothers native plants by forming a thick layer of vegetation
- Is easily spread by birds which ingest the berries

Do I have Buckthorn?

Leaves are egg-shaped, glossy, and finely toothed on the edges



Cut bark reveals yellow sapwood and orange heartwood on larger trees

Fruit are round, berry-like, and form clusters. They ripen in late summer



What you can do to help protect Lakeville's woodlands

Removal of existing Buckthorn

Methods vary depending on the size of the plants

- Seedlings can be hand-pulled or removed with a hoe or puller.
The City of Lakeville has pullers available to rent for a week at a time through the Park & Recreation Dept. Call 952.985.4600 for information.
- Pull up small trees (less than 1") by hand.
- Loppers work great for small or medium sized shrubs.
- Larger trees can be cut with a saw. Handsaws work well, but a chainsaw is more efficient if you have a lot of buckthorn.
- Dispose of brush properly and be careful if there are berries on the branches. There are several seeds in each berry, and the seeds can persist in the soil for years before growing.

Treat the stumps!

Buckthorn easily resprouts from cut stumps. To prevent this, do one of the following:

- Dig out stumps with a shovel or grub axe or
- Treat the freshly cut stumps with an herbicide such as Brush-B-Gone® or Round-up® (25% or greater concentration). Herbicide should be painted on with a brush, making sure to avoid dripping on to other plants. **If you are near water, use Rodeo® (25% or greater concentration), or equivalent herbicide that is safe for aquatic life.**
- Return unused herbicide to a labeled container for storage and throw away brushes and buckets (don't wash them out).

Persistence

Buckthorn can be difficult to control, but not impossible.

Some helpful hints:

- Target berry-producing female trees for removal first.
- Annually pull or cut small seedlings. Buckthorn is a lot easier to control in the early stages.
- When removing buckthorn, replace with native shrubs to help discourage encroaching buckthorn.