



VILLAGE OF RHINEBECK

www.climatesmartrhinebeck.org

GLYPHOSATE BAN

A public service announcement on the use of Roundup™

AT A GLANCE

- The Village Board has banned spraying Glyphosate (Roundup™) on municipal properties
- Glyphosate may be hazardous to your health
- See the Village Tree Commission's weed management tips below
- Take care to dig invasive Ailanthus trees out by the roots
- Report and kill invasive Spotted Lantern Flies

ANNOUNCEMENT

In September 2021, the Rhinebeck Village Board passed a resolution banning the spraying of Glyphosate (Roundup™) on municipal properties. This herbicide/pesticide has been linked to cancer in humans and can disrupt the balance of our ecology by harming birds, insects, and plants. The resolution further states that only certified personnel or trained contractors may handle controlled chemicals on municipal property. See also, NY State's Assembly Bill A732B, which "prohibits the use of glyphosate on state property." www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2019/A732

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

While the Village Board's resolution does not regulate the use of these chemicals on your property, we encourage businesses and residents to refrain from spraying glyphosate products on private property. We want you and our environment to be healthy and safe.

VILLAGE TREE COMMISSION TIPS

Best practices for alternative herbicidal methods:

- Spread mulch to suppress weed growth.
- Use very strong horticultural vinegar in paved areas.
- Mow lawns on a high setting, allowing grass to compete better with weeds.
- Weed-whack very short along roadsides once a month, particularly during hot summer months.
- Pull out vines or invasive trees by the root. This is the best option before these vines/trees go to seed and are spread by birds. Get them before they're well established and too difficult to pull out!



Ailanthus sapling shoots, photo by Dawn Danby



Ailanthus, photo by Mary Burns

DIG DEEPER—THERE'S SOME COMPLEXITY

You may have noticed an invasive tree, Ailanthus (commonly known as Tree of Heaven—such a misleadingly pleasant name!), often found along roadsides and sprouting up in hard-to-get-at spots in your yard and along fence lines. It looks similar to Sumac, but Sumac has distinctive "staghorns" when flowering. In the fall, Sumac turns red but Ailanthus does not.

If you see an Ailanthus sapling, rip it out by its roots before it quickly grows too large. Cutting this tree only spurs new growth. If this is the situation, continue to cut any new growth—over time, the lack of any foliage will starve the plant. Or, you can hire a landscaping professional who is certified to carefully paint concentrated glyphosate on a stump, one of the only other ways to prevent new growth.

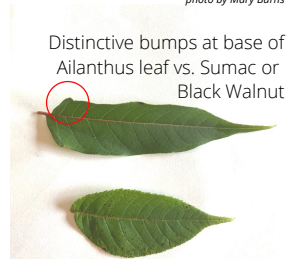
Why is this so important? The Tree of Heaven is prime habitat for the Spotted Lantern Fly (SLF), an invasive insect that is migrating to our area, decimating forests in its wake. If you see a SLF, email a photo of it and the location to spottedlanternfly@agriculture.ny.gov And be sure to squish it!



Ailanthus: Notice the bump on the leaf's edge by the stem, photo by Mary Burns



Ailanthus pods, photo by Jesús Cabrera



Distinctive bumps at base of Ailanthus leaf vs. Sumac or Black Walnut



Spotted lanternfly, Photo: Lawrence Barringer, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, bugwood.org



SLF with closed wings, Photo: Lawrence Barringer, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, bugwood.org



Late nymph (left) and early nymph (right)