



GLOSSY BUCKTHORN: HELP STOP THE SPREAD

Glossy Buckthorn out-competes native plants for food and water. Glossy Buckthorn creates dense shade that eliminates most other plant growth and contributes to erosion problems. It has an aggressive growth habit that allows it to form monocultures which degrades wildlife habitat and reduces biodiversity. It has no natural controls such as disease or insect pests.

WHAT CAN ISLANDERS DO?

- Don't plant it.
- Dig it up- make sure your identification is accurate. Dogwood leaves look similar to Glossy Buckthorn.
- Buckthorn will sucker if just cut and stump left. Ensure the stump and roots are removed when dug or pulled.



INFORMATION GUIDE

Scientific Name: *Rhamnus frangula* or *Frangula alnus*.

Family: Buckthorn Family

Origin: Introduced from Europe as an ornamental shrub.

Growth Habitat: A very aggressive and invasive shrub with multiple stems that can grow up to 20 feet tall.

Leaves: Alternate, shiny, oval shaped with smooth wavy edges, leaves remain green late into fall.

Bark: Gray-brown, spotted white.

Flowers: White to whitish-green, hang down in small clusters.

Fruit/seed: Red berries turn purplish-black when ripe.

Reproduction: Mainly by seed distributed by birds, sprouts will grow from cut stems.

Habitat: Tolerates a wide range of habitats from wetlands to woodland edges, old field, ditches, urban properties and backyards.