

## **Autumn Olive** *Elaeagnus umbellata*



Perennial deciduous shrub or small tree to fifteen feet tall.

Widespread in all three counties.

Undersides of leaves pale silver. Clusters of aromatic, white, drooping four-petaled flowers with long tube-like bases. Blooms in June and July. Small

quarter-inch pink to reddish berries marked with silvery scales ripen Sept – Nov.

Autumn olive's tolerance of many soil conditions allows it to invade grasslands, fields, open woodlands, and disturbed areas.

Fruit is eaten by a wide variety of birds and mammals which aid in seed dispersal.

### **Autumn Olive - Control Methods**

**Hand Pulling** – Effective for seedlings and young plants. Care must be taken to remove the entire root system to prevent resprouting.

**Mar - Nov**; or anytime identification is possible.

**Cut Stump** – Cut stem 2 - 3 inches above the ground and apply a pre-mixed 50% solution of a water-soluble triclopyr amine with water to the stump immediately following cutting. Avoid run-off onto the soil.

**Mar – Nov**; best following full leaf expansion in spring.

**Basal Bark** – Apply a 25% solution of oil-based triclopyr ester with an oil-based surfactant in a band several inches to a foot wide completely around the trunk and all stems. Avoid runoff or spraying chemical on the ground.

**Mar – Nov**; best following full leaf expansion in spring.

**Foliar Spray** – A 2% solution of glyphosate in a 0.5% non-ionic surfactant is effective when applied in an even coat to all foliage. Spray until wet but before it begins to drip off the leaves.

**Early Summer through Fall**