

Exotic Honeysuckles

Lonicera spp.

Identification: There are several exotic species of honeysuckle, including the shrubby Amur's honeysuckle, Morrow's honeysuckle, and Tartarian honeysuckle, and the vine Japanese honeysuckle. Flowers form in spring and are replaced by bright, often red or orange berries. Leaves are often grayish green and have a tear-drop shape.



KEY TRAIT: Leaves are attached to branches in opposite pairs.

Impact: Honeysuckles form leaves earlier than most deciduous plants, and retain them late into the fall, effectively shading nearby native species. The many species of invasive honeysuckles—some shrubs, some vines—are well-suited to different niches and often outcompete their native relatives.

Removal: Larger, well-established bushes may take three to five years of treatment to completely remove. Either cut or pull entire plants, or spray either leaves or cut stumps with herbicide.



Replacement:

Winterberry

Ilex verticillata

Spicebush

Lindera benzoin

Red Osier Dogwood

Cornus sericea

Arrowwood

Viburnum dentatum

Black Chokeberry

Aronia melanocarpa

Twinberry

Lonicera involucrata