

# **Amur Honeysuckle Control by Parks & Recreation**

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# Amur Honeysuckle

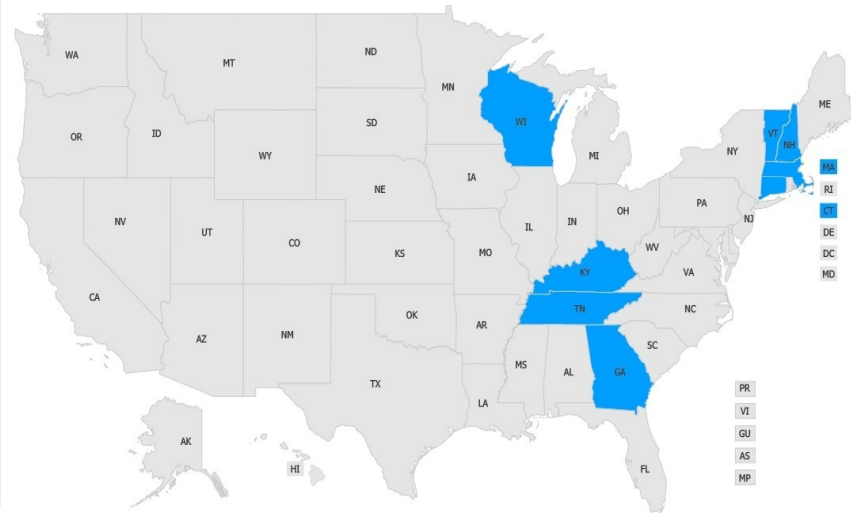
## *Lonicera maackii*

A large shrub from eastern Asia, that has become highly invasive in eastern and central U.S.A.

It is rampant in Lawrence.



Some states have already banned it





# Why is it so invasive?

It chokes out other plants by:

- leafing out earliest in Spring
- growing very rapidly
- producing 1 million berries per shrub
- birds spreading berries all Winter
- root toxins inhibiting adjacent plants





# Amur Honeysuckle grows 15-20 feet





# Amur Honeysuckle forms dense groves



# How big a problem is Amur Honeysuckle in Lawrence?

- It is in virtually every neighborhood.
- The largest stands are in older affluent neighborhoods – Sunset Hills, Deerfield, Hillcrest, Pinckney, Old West Lawrence.
- Many residential streets have it in the right-of-way.
- It is in every City park, except the most formal ones.
- It seems to have been planted as an ornamental in the older “flagship” parks – Holcom, Clinton, Centennial.
- It is extensive in the “nature” parks – Prairie Park, Naismith Valley Park, Billings Nature Area, Brook Creek Woods, Burcham Park, Martin Park.
- Rock Chalk Park and the new Lawrence Nature Park are just beginning to be infested.
- At least one local nursery is still promoting and selling it.



# Rockledge at 9th Terr.



# Westdale at Centennial



# Louisiana at 5th Street





# Holcom Park



# Clinton (Pinckney) Park



# Centennial Park, Skate Park





# Prairie Park Nature Center



# Naismith Valley Park



# Brook Creek Woods



# Burroughs Creek Park





# De Victor Park



# Martin Park



# SLT Trail at Kasold



# Parks Mntnce., 19th at Moodie





# Recommended Response Plan

- Declare an ecological emergency. Designate Amur Honeysuckle as a noxious weed for eradication.
- Charge Parks & Recreation Dept. with eradication by uprooting, or by cutting/stump herbicide, on yearly schedule - before the berries mature in November:
  - Year 1: all nature parks, with trained volunteers
  - Year 2: all formal parks, and street rights-of-way
  - Year 3 and beyond: mop up, monitor, maintain
- Hire two Program Managers for three years, and five Forestry Laborers (March-November) for three years.
- Inform and instruct the public through City media.
- Pass ordinance requiring it be removed from private property, with fines kicking in after three years.
- Coordinate with Douglas County and K.U. to achieve complimentary efforts.



# Annual budget, for three years

## Year 1

2 Program Mgrs. @ \$50,000	\$100,000
5 Forestry Lbrs. @ \$20,000	\$100,000
5000 replacement shrubs @ \$20	\$100,000
1 crew truck	\$60,000
1 computer	\$15,000
1 miscellaneous	<u>\$15,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$390,000</b>

## Year 2

2 Program Mgrs. @ \$50,000	\$100,000
5 Forestry Lbrs. @ \$20,000	\$100,000
5000 replacement shrubs @ \$20	\$100,000
1 miscellaneous	<u>\$15,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$315,000</b>

## Year 3

2 Program Mgrs. @ \$50,000	\$100,000
5 Forestry Lbrs. @ \$20,000	\$100,000
3000 replacement shrubs @ \$20	\$60,000
1 miscellaneous	<u>\$10,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$270,000</b>

**3 Year TOTAL** **\$975,000**



# Thank you very much!



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