

## Garlic Mustard - Emergency Alert!

*"Garlic mustard's time is here.  
Get out and pull it quick, m'dear!  
If you wait, the facts are clear,  
Twice as much will grow next year."*

by Lynn Collins, inspired by, and with apologies to, Burma Shave

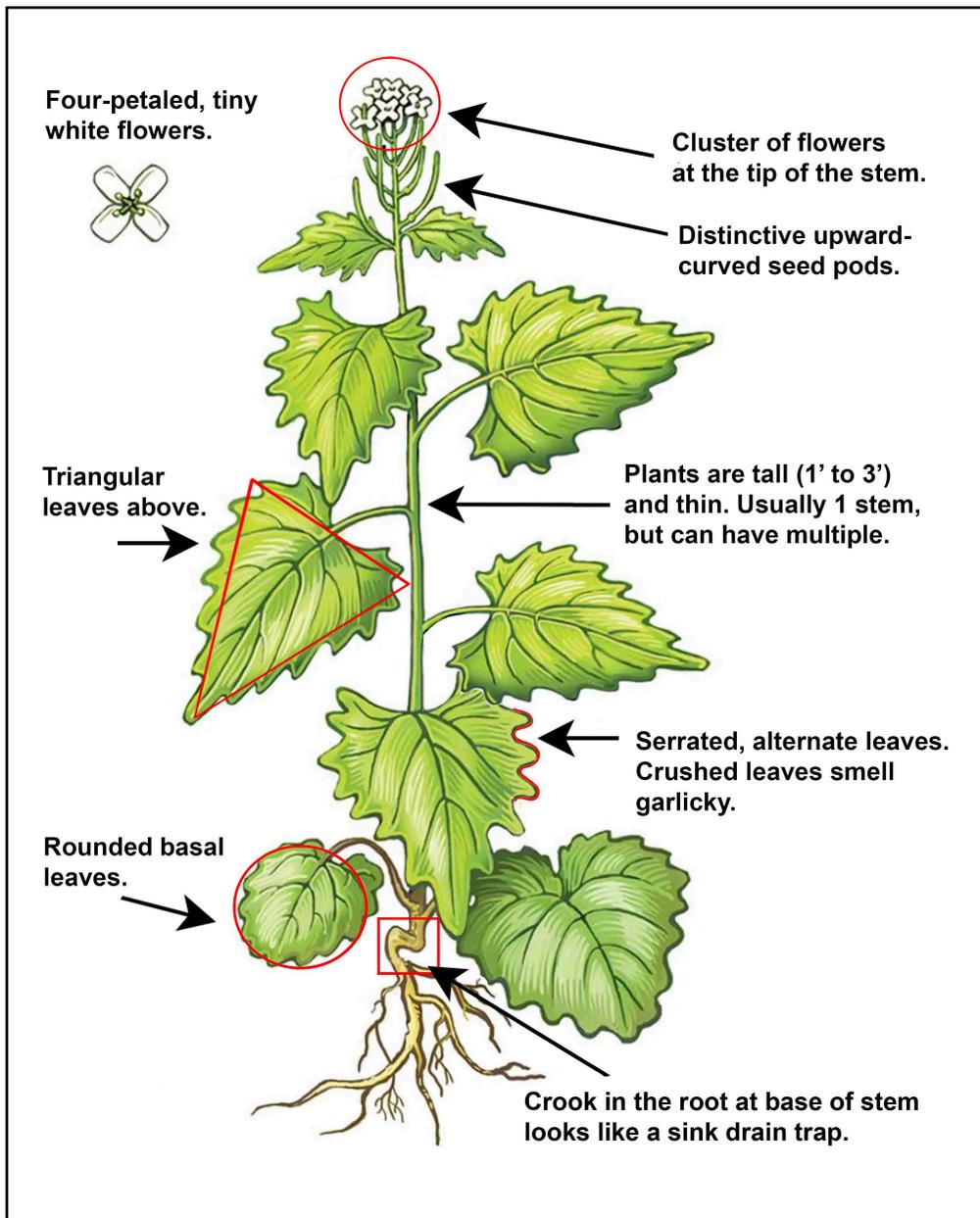
**Garlic Mustard, The "Darth Vader" of Invasive Plants.** *Garlic mustard is one of the most destructive, prolific, and resilient plants in Michigan.* It grows rampant around the Platte Lakes, especially along Deadstream Road. It is so aggressive that, if not kept in check, it will quickly spread and take over large areas of disturbed ground, roadsides, fields, and woodlands. It forces out native plants and animals and permanently changes the environment so that restoring the area to its natural state is almost impossible.

**What You Can Do.** **1. Pull the plants out by the roots, 2. Double bag them in heavy duty black plastic bags, 3. Tie the bags securely, 4. Put the bags in a "Garlic Mustard Only" dumpster.** There are two of these dumpsters available. In Frankfort you'll find one at the corner of James Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Street, by the cardboard recycling semi trailer. The second one is by the Lake Township Hall recycling bins. Only put bags of Garlic Mustard in the dumpsters.

**Act Now.** This is prime time to beat back garlic mustard. It's vulnerable from mid-May to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July; the time it starts to bloom until it turns brown and goes to seed. Now don't laugh, but it's actually fun, and some find it addictive. Invite a friend to join you. Go for a walk in the woods or along a road. You can chat and enjoy the outdoors while protecting it.

**What Garlic Mustard Looks Like:**





For more information on local invasives, check out "**Invasive Plants Identification Field Guide.**" (a downloadable pdf): <https://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/invasive-species/InvasivePlantsFieldGuide.pdf>.

Regards,  
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