

# WANTED

## Garlic Mustard

*Alliaria petiolata*

This insidious spring weed is all around us. (Check the edges of your property) It carpets the roadside on Riverside Drive between Sleepy Hollow and Phillipse Manors.

The first year it appears as a rosette of leaves ➤



The second year it produces white flowers. A crushed leaf smells garlic-y. “Garlic mustard poses a severe threat to native plants and animals in forest communities in much of the eastern and midwestern U.S. Once introduced to an area, garlic mustard outcompetes native plants by aggressively monopolizing light, moisture, nutrients, soil and space. Wildlife species that depend on these early plants for their foliage, pollen, nectar, fruits, seeds and roots, are deprived of these essential food sources when garlic mustard replaces them.” (from [nps.gov/plants/alien/fact](https://nps.gov/plants/alien/fact))



*GARLIC MUSTARD can self-pollinate, enabling it to colonize an area.*

### MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

Pull when soil is damp, but get the entire root system out to avoid resprouting. Prevent seed production by cutting flowering stems at ground level. If you see seed-pods (but before the seeds have matured or scattered) bag the stalks and remove from the site. Keep doing this throughout the summer.