



How to plan a Honeysuckle Clearing Event(s)

1- Get approval. The land may be city owned or privately owned. Most people will welcome the idea that someone is willing to help clear this nonnative invasive species and many will also want to make sure that you are doing it appropriately.

2- Plan it out in stages. This can be a long process and may take several visits to complete. Understanding that before you begin we create less frustration later.

-What will you do with the debris? You can chip, have collected, or place strategically.

-Time of year is critical too. The best time is Fall. Know that the herbicide will not work in low temperatures.

-Purchase plants to reforest.

3- Buy/borrow the proper amount of supplies. Gloves, Chainsaws (hard hat, eyewear), loppers, small saws, and herbicide. Wood chippers are great to have also.

4- Map it out. Take a walk and look closely at the area you want to alleviate the Amur Honeysuckle from. Mark the trees that will need chainsaws. You may use plastic ribbons in various ways to mark things for your volunteers.

5- Train Volunteers. Make sure that volunteers are trained on how to distinguish a honeysuckle from other trees that may look similar. Train them also that this is not a 'clearing' exercise of all the forest floor- we want to keep all native flowers, seedlings, and shrubs. They will also need to know the proper techniques in cutting and putting on herbicides. (Model these lessons to them in person and have them watch a video beforehand if possible)

6- Assign Roles. Give volunteers roles. Some will have chainsaws (experienced users) to get the larger trees. Some will have to follow the people cutting with the herbicide to paint on immediately (within 2 minutes). Others will collect the cut trees and some will have loppers/small saws to get the small trees.

7- Monitor the Activity- You will need someone that is experienced to walk around helping people identify and use proper cutting procedures.

8- Reforest. The reforestation activity is just as important as the removal itself. Be sure to use native trees, shrubs and flowers to fill in the area, otherwise all of your hard work will be for naught.

Thank you for doing your part to help heal the land. If you need additional information or support, please see the INFO page at www.LoveOurLand.org . We have resources on procedures and where to purchase your plants for reforestation.