

Wildflowers in the Watershed: The Good, the Bad, and the Weedy

Plaster Creek Stewards Spring Event

April 20, 2013

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Alliaria petiolata
Garlic Mustard



Alliaria petiolata

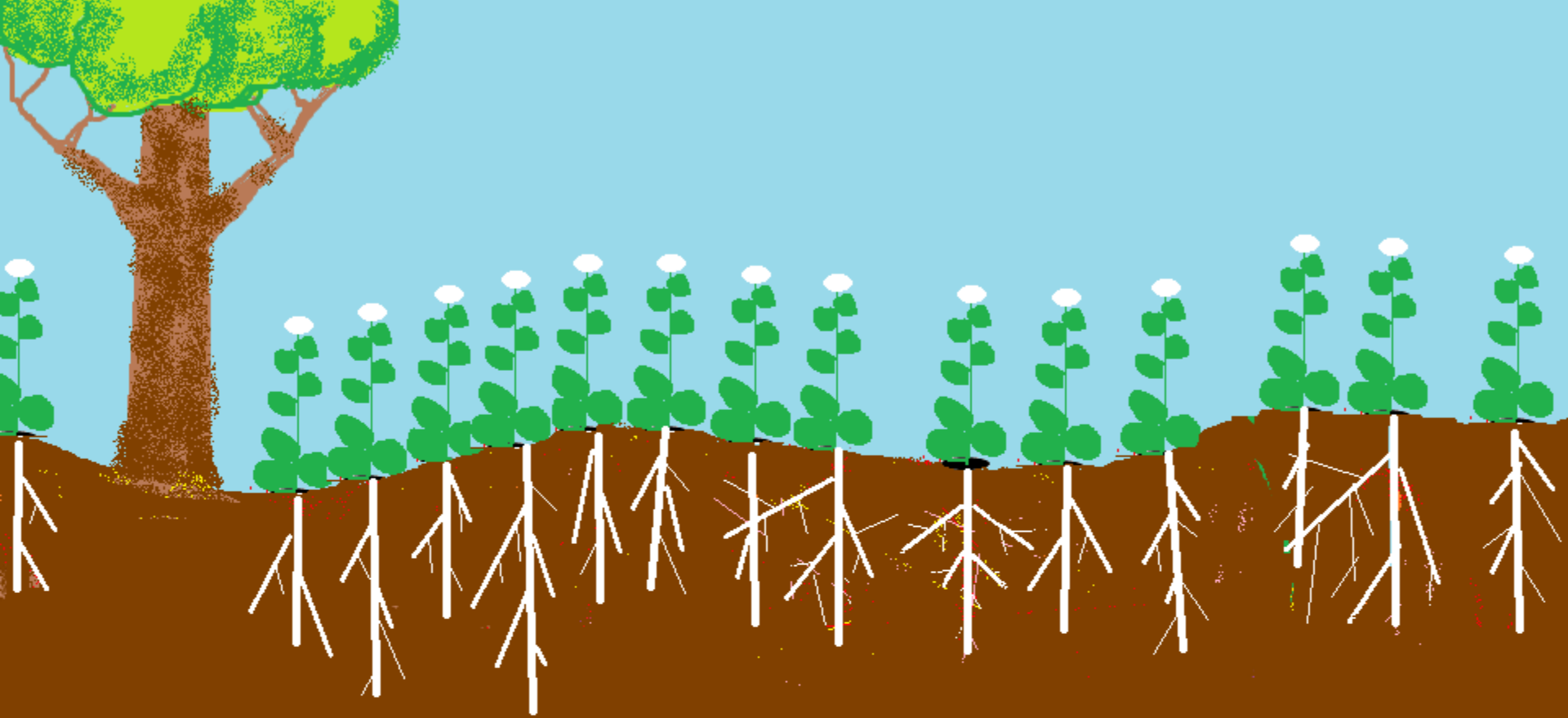
Garlic Mustard life-cycle and control

- Biennial: first year rosette, second year white flower
- Seeds germinate in second year
- ALLELOPATHIC!

CONTROL:

- Pull em! (Wont see results untill after two years)
- Hack em! (Before seed set)
- Burn em!





Changes soils chemistry

Can establish in pristine woodlands, given an opportunity

Often found along foot paths or deer trails

Dame's rocket

Hesperis matronalis



Controlling Dame's rocket

Hesperis matronalis

CONTROL:

- Pull
- Herbicide (round up—1% Glyphosate)

Not a biennial plant—so the weed wack approach will be less effective



Ranunculus ficaria

Lesser Celandine





Lythrum salicaria – Purple loosestrife



Purple loosestrife – a management success story

- Biocontrol – *Galerucella californiensis*





Phragmites australis
Giant/Common Reed Grass



The most common control method for *Phragmites*:



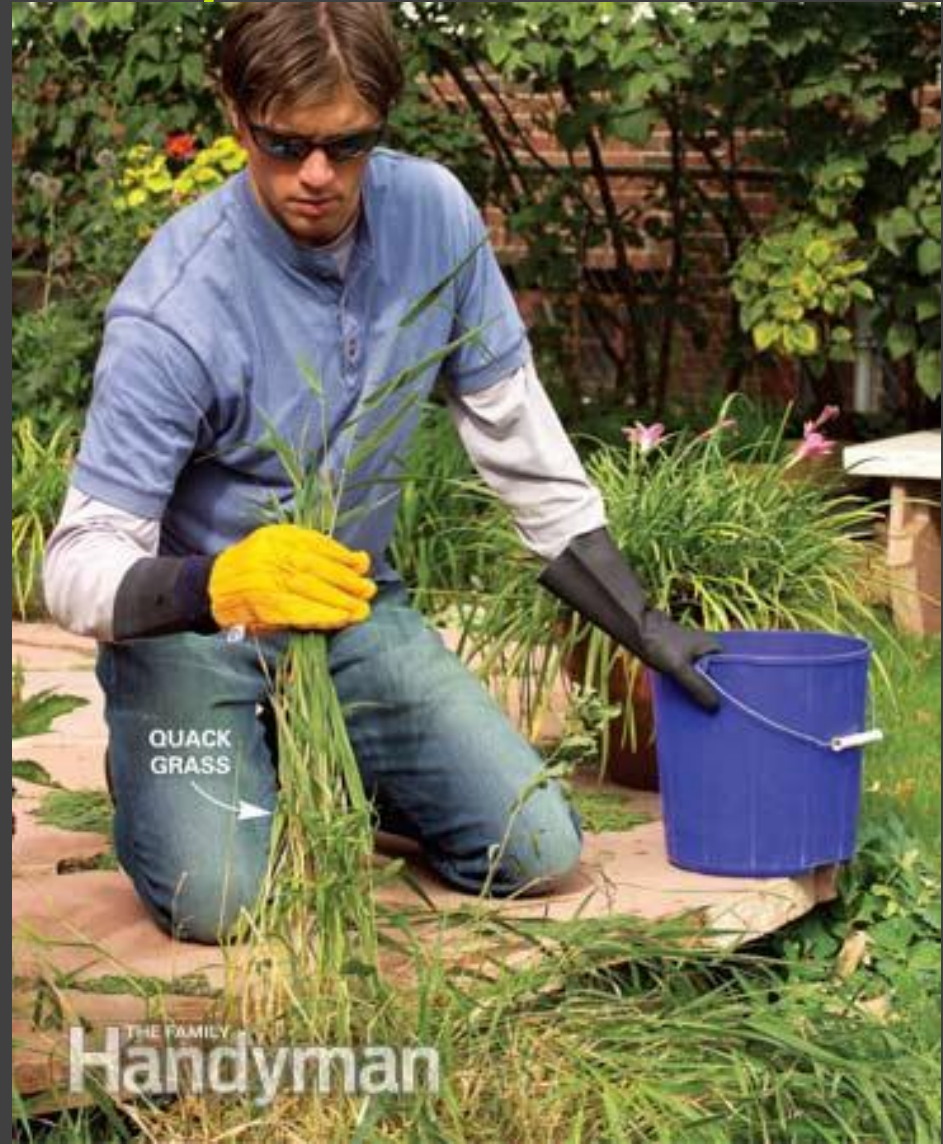
DNR control strategy:

- Helicopter spray (glyphosate + imazapyr)
- Burn the dead plant material



Phragmites australis - Is herbicide the best option?

- Pulling the plants almost never works
- “Glove of Death” technique can minimize over using chemicals



Japanese knotweed

Fallopia japonica



A volcanic niche:



An analogous habitat:



Knotweed in the UK:



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**Property value fell from
300,000 pounds to 50,000
pounds**

Knotweed control:

Don't dig it, mow it, or cut it!

Until a bio-control becomes available, herbicide remains the best option

(triclopyr-amine – 3% or 20%)

