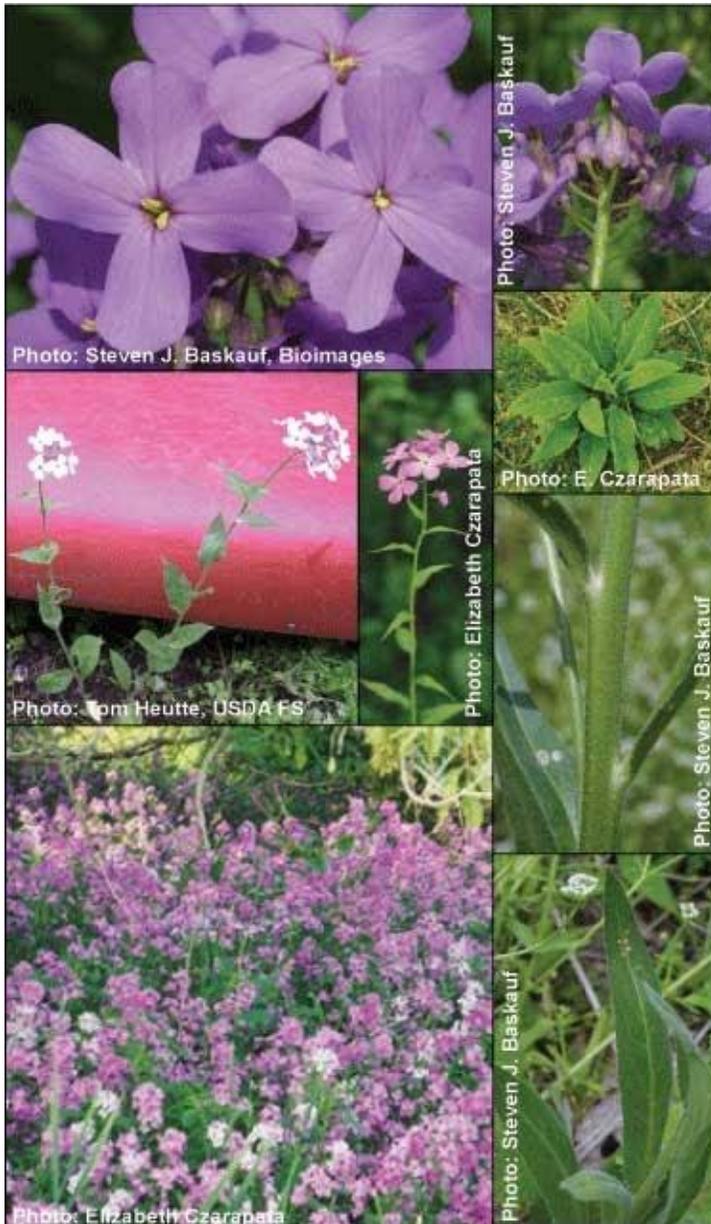


Woldumar needs your help to pull out some invasive plants. We have some resources to help you identify the pesky plants, how to dispose of them, and how they are affecting other native plants. Thank you so much for offering your time to help keep Woldumar looking native. While you are pulling these invasive species, please be aware of your surroundings and what you are touching. We encourage you to have another person with you, if possible. What you will need:

- Sack for plants-grocery or trash bags work well. Please no holes and double bag if possible
- Long pants and tall shoes (optional, but will help keep thorns away from ankles and legs)
- Watch out for Poison Ivy and do a tick check after you get home.



### Dame's Rocket

We don't want Dame's Rocket at Woldumar because it can form monocultures, only one type of plant growing in an area. That could lead to replacing native plants in high-quality natural areas, which in turn reduces critical food resources for birds, butterflies, and other wild creatures. Dame's Rocket is a relative of garlic mustard and often grows with garlic mustard. It has similar growth patterns and can take over the habitat of native wildflowers and tree seedlings.

Dame's Rocket is a biennial (2-year life cycle), a similar growing cycle to garlic mustard. It is a low rosette the first year and stays green all winter. The leaves are pointed, lance-shaped, and range from 2 to 6 inches long. They are alternate and get progressively smaller up the stem.

The second year, Dame's Rocket bolts to 2-4 feet tall and produces clusters of flowers. **The flowers have 4 petals and range in color from white to purple.** Flowers bloom in May and June and are very easy to spot. After flowering, Dame's Rocket will produce long, thin, dark-colored seed pods. A single plant can release 20,000 seeds.

You can hand pull Dame's Rocket with relative ease when the soil is moist. Please pull as close to the ground as possible to get as much of the root as you can. Once it is out of the ground, place it in a bag for safe disposal.

Resources for Dame's Rocket:

[https://www.misin.msu.edu/train/species/DamesRocket/story\\_html5.html](https://www.misin.msu.edu/train/species/DamesRocket/story_html5.html)

<https://www.misin.msu.edu/facts/detail/?project=misin&id=21&cname=Dame%27s+rocket>

## Garlic Mustard

Garlic Mustard replaces native plants in high-quality natural areas, which in turn reduces critical food resources for birds, butterflies, and other wildlife. In addition to physically crowding out native plants—especially spring ephemerals like trillium and violets—garlic mustard releases chemicals into the soil that hinder the growth of other plants through its taproot. Furthermore, few native herbivores will eat garlic mustard, giving it a large competitive advantage over native plants. The replacement of native plants by garlic mustard can hinder forest regeneration by limiting tree seedling growth. It can also destroy mycorrhizal fungi needed by woody plants for regeneration. Garlic mustard seeds are able to live in the soil for at least 7 years before sprouting.

Garlic mustard is a biennial herb that usually grows to 2 to 3 feet when mature, though it spends its first growing season and the following winter as a small leafy rosette. Leaves are triangular or heart-shaped and are roughly and irregularly toothed.

The second-year stem is topped by clusters of small, white, 4-petaled flowers. **All parts of the plant smell of garlic when crushed, especially early in the season.** Adult plants die in midsummer but persist as tall dead stalks with thin seed pods. Although tolerating a range of conditions, garlic mustard is most common in moist forest edges, open woods, and shaded roadsides.



Pulling garlic mustard is very effective. Take care to remove the root, and pulling should be done in early spring before the plant goes to seed. Garlic mustard is an extremely hardy plant and can re-sprout in a compost pile or if left out, and seeds can develop even if the plant was not flowering when pulled. Please be sure it is bagged properly!

Garlic Mustard is an edible invasive plant. Be sure you have properly identified this plant before considering ingestion.

Resources for Garlic Mustard:

[https://www.misin.msu.edu/train/species/GarlicMustard/story\\_html5.html](https://www.misin.msu.edu/train/species/GarlicMustard/story_html5.html)

[https://www.michigan.gov/invasives/0,5664,7-324-68002\\_71240\\_73853-379483--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/invasives/0,5664,7-324-68002_71240_73853-379483--,00.html)

<http://www.fosc.org/GM-Recipe.htm>

Areas that need attention first are circled in yellow on the trail map.

- Edges of the Parking lot
- Woods around Moon Cabin
- Along blue trail/orange trails

When you are done picking the invasive plants, please deposit them in bags by the deck behind the visitor's center. If you can, please take a before and after picture of the area you cleaned up. Tag us and show others the impact you made.

