



INVASIVE PLANT WALK

MILE-A-MINUTE VINE



June 26, 2 PM
New Milford High School, New Milford, CT

- **Learn to recognize Mile-a-Minute Vine (MAM)**
- **Develop an eye for spotting MAM**
- **Learn from an experienced control crew how to control MAM *without chemicals***

HISTORY: The area west of the playing fields at NMHS was planted as meadow in 2000. Several small patches of MAM were found growing on multiflora rose and autumn olive in late 2007. Control began immediately. Since then very little seed has been produced on this site. Although MAM seeds last for several years in the soil, most germinate in the first two years. We expect to see a reduction in plant numbers here this year.

Mad Gardener's small MAM crew – generally two part-time paid college students and two volunteers – spends 10 to 60 hours total each week from late May to mid-October checking properties and pulling plants in two large populations, one scattered over an area about a mile in diameter on the New Milford-Bridgewater border, the other, including NMHS, scattered over an area about half a mile in diameter. Over 150 properties have been checked. About half of them have MAM, in patches ranging in size from a single plant to several acres. **The crew has almost eliminated seed production since 2007.**

A single plant of this fast-growing Asian annual can, if left uncontrolled, produce over 2000 seeds and blanket an area over 20 ft in diameter. Plants grow as fast as 6 inches a day. Seed production generally begins in early July. The NMHS site is scheduled for MAM pulling the last week of June. Some MAM plants will be quite large, others tiny. All will be hidden in vegetation. The first round of pulling on nearby sites will be completed before June 26. Known MAM sites in the New Milford/Bridgewater populations are scheduled for repeat checking and pulling every 2-3 weeks until frost.

DIRECTIONS: New Milford High School, 388 Danbury Road, New Milford CT, parking lot access on Larson Road. **Travelling south** on RT 7 from the center of New Milford, turn right onto Larson Road at the traffic light at Agway. **Travelling north** on RT 7 from Brookfield, turn left onto Larson Road at the light at the High School. On Larson Road, take the last turn into the NMHS parking lot and meet in the NW corner of the lot, i.e. the far corner closest to Larson Road.

IF POSSIBLE EMAIL OR CALL IN ADVANCE to Kathleen Nelson, Chairperson, Invasive Species Advisory Committee, Mad Gardeners, Inc. 860-355-1547, knelson151@sbcglobal.net. Depending on attendance, there may be a second starting time.

NOTE: This is a guided tour along rough-mown pathways. Wear long pants and sturdy footwear. There may be a damp spot or two on the path. Long sleeves and gardening gloves are recommended for those who wish to try pulling plants.

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More information at www.madgardeners.com and <http://www.hort.uconn.edu/mam/>