**KEEP A LOOKOUT**
for INVASIVE PLANTS

These are some of the high-priority invasive plants on the Ottawa National Forest.

Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*). Biennial herb, 1 to 4 feet high, with small white flowers and narrow tubular fruits. The leaves are heart-shaped, coarsely toothed, and smell like garlic when crushed. Hardwood forests. Blooms in the spring.

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*). Perennial, 3 to 5 feet tall. The purple flowers have 5 or 6 petals (unlike the native fireweed, which has 4). Found along stream banks, lakeshores, wet meadows, and ditches. Blooms in summer.

Exotic honeysuckle. Multi-stemmed shrubs. Three similar species: Bell honeysuckle (*Lonicera x bella*), Morrow honeysuckle (Asian fly honeysuckle, *L. morrowii*), and Tartarian honeysuckle (*L. tatarica*). Opposite, untoothed leaves. Flowers are white or pink, sometimes fading yellow. Stems are brown and hollow in middle (unlike our native honeysuckles, which are solid and white in the middle). Fruits are red (sometimes orange) berries in pairs.

Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*). Small shrub, 2 to 4 feet high, with many short sharp spines. Leaves are small (1-3 cm long) and spoon shaped. Yellow flowers in the spring. Egg-shaped fruits are green when young and turn red in the fall, 8-10 mm long. Primarily of concern on the Ottawa National Forest.
Glossy buckthorn (*Rhamnus frangula*). Large shrub. Glossy leaves with no teeth. Smooth gray bark with white speckles. No thorns. Fruits start green, then turn red, then black. Prefers wetlands or moist clay soil.

Common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*). Large shrub often with several stems arising from base. Dark green toothed leaves. Peeling bark. Small sharp thorns at the ends of branches. Fruits start green, then turn black. Prefers upland forest.

Eurasian water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) is an aquatic plant known from several Ottawa lakes. The leaves occur in whorls of four and have 12 or more pairs of leaflets (more than our native milfoils). The stems are submerged, branched, and eventually form mats at the water surface.

If you find a site, please record the species, date, location, and an estimate of abundance. If you find many sites, please just note you saw many plants from here to there.

For more information, or to report sites, please contact Ian Shackleford at 906-285-6911, ian.shackleford@usda.gov.

**Prevent the spread of invasive species:** Inspect and clean clothing, footwear, and gear for soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates; before and after work, or when leaving an infested area.