

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PLANT?



Fall is a good time to look for porcelain berry while it's still identifiable by its leaves and fruits. Photo by Elizabeth J. Czarapata.

PORCELAIN BERRY

PROHIBITED INVASIVE SPECIES IN WISCONSIN

Porcelain berry is a highly invasive, deciduous, woody, climbing vine in the grape family. **It can kill trees, reduce property values and impact forests.**

Porcelain berry's **prohibited status** means it's found only in a few places but spreads aggressively and can potentially cause significant environmental or economic harm or is a human health hazard. It is illegal to buy, possess, transport, transfer and introduce prohibited species into Wisconsin.

WHY IT'S A PROBLEM

- Grows quickly and can twine up to 25 feet high on trees, killing them or increasing wind and ice damage.
- Climbs over vegetation, shading out shrubs and trees.
- Spreads by birds and animals dispersing seeds and re-sprouts after being cut. New seedlings emerge for several years.



REPORT LOCATION TO INVASIVE.SPECIES@WISCONSIN.GOV



Native grape



Virginia creeper

HOW TO IDENTIFY

LEAVES have several lobes and have a heart-shaped base and coarsely toothed edges. Leaf underside has small hairs.

FLOWERS bloom mid-summer and are greenish-white and inconspicuous.

FRUIT appears September-October as hard berries, up to 1/3" with small spots. They form in broad, upright clusters. Colors vary during maturation from green, white, pink, lavender, blue. Fruit flesh is white.

BARK has raised, light dots called **lenticels** and fibrous, large and branched. The root is woody, fibrous, large and branched.

HOW TO TELL LOOKALIKES

Native grapes (*Vitis* spp.) are also climbing woody vines but the **BARK** shreds when mature and lacks lenticels. Stem pith is brown. **FRUIT** are green, black, or purple and watery.

Native Virginia creeper also climbs, and can blanket other plants, but the **BARK** differs, as stems can be red in autumn.

MECHANICAL CONTROL

- Carefully hand pull small vines from trees and uproot small plants. Be aware that pulling on vines can damage trees.
- For vines too large to pull out, cut them near the ground. If not treated they will re-sprout and will need to be cut repeatedly. All control treatments will likely need to be repeated.
- If the plants are pulled or cut while in fruit, fruits should be bagged and disposed of in a land-fill to prevent spread of seeds.



CHEMICAL CONTROL

- Follow all herbicide label instructions. Apply a systemic herbicide, glyphosate (eg. Roundup) or triclopyr (eg. Garlon) 20% solution on freshly cut stumps. Or apply a 20% solution of triclopyr mixed in bark oil all around the base of the stem, in a band about six inches wide near the ground, in autumn.
- Spray leaves during the growing season, using a broadleaf herbicide to retain grasses and avoid creating large dead zones. Caution must be taken to avoid killing other plants. All control treatments will likely need to be repeated.