



FACT SHEET

YELLOW ARCHANGEL

Lamium galeobdolan

- Fast-growing perennial ground cover.
- Trailing or upright, depending on conditions.
- Leaves, typically variegated with silvery-grey markings, are opposite, hairy, oval shaped and coarsely toothed.
- Stems are square.
- Flowers appear from April through June. They are bright yellow, tubular, growing in pairs of clusters close to the stems .
- Mint family.



Photo Credit—King County Noxious Weed Control Program

ECOLOGY:

- Herbaceous perennial.
- Spreads by stem fragments, rooting at the nodes, and by seed.
- Grows well in a variety of soil types and can grow in full sun, full shade, or any intermediate condition.

DISTRIBUTION:

Yellow archangel is seen increasingly often in Jefferson County but no count of infestations has yet been done. Known infestations occur at Fort Flagler State Park, North Beach and Chetzemoka Park in Port Townsend.

WHY BE CONCERNED?

- Yellow archangel is a popular garden ornamental, especially for use in hanging baskets
- Baskets and their contents often get dumped in woodlands or close to parks
- Stem and root fragments can give rise to new plants
- Yellow archangel is VERY invasive—it forms dense patches, crowding out native plants
- Offers little or no food or habitat for native wild life

Yellow archangel is a Class B Noxious Weed. Control is required in Jefferson County, except in managed garden settings.

CONTROL

Prevention and early detection are the best means of control!

- **Do not buy or plant** yellow archangel
- **Encourage** nurseries to stop selling it
- **Remove** existing plants if possible (they are still allowed in managed garden settings, but removal is encouraged)
- **Replant** with a desirable (preferably native) plant species to discourage re-infestation
- **Monitor** the site for seedlings and remove as they appear
- **Never dump** plants in parks or natural areas, or in backyard compost piles

HAND PULLING is possible; the roots are tough but not deep. However, it is labor-intensive because the plants grow so densely and are often mingled with desirable vegetation. Because of the plant's ability to re-sprout from root or stem fragments, great care should be taken to remove the entire plant and to dispose of it properly. It is easiest to remove the entire plants when the ground is soft, in the fall through early spring.

CUTTING OR MOWING alone will not control this plant.

COVERING with several layers of cardboard topped with several inches of mulch could be a good way to control large infestations. However, this will kill all plants in the area so should not be used if many desirable plants are present.

HERBICIDES can be effective, but should always be applied with care. Do not apply herbicides over or near water bodies. Read the label to check that you are applying a herbicide in the right place, to the right plant, at the right time, and in the right amount. For perennial weeds, long term control requires stopping seed production **and** attacking the weed's root system. Translocated herbicides, (ones that move throughout a plant's system) are recommended. These are most effective on young, actively growing plants because the herbicide moves around the plant more quickly. Also, herbicide is more easily absorbed by clean, new leaves.

- **Note:** Most herbicides will **NOT** prevent germination of weed seeds already in the soil, so monitoring and retreatment are necessary.



Call the Weed Board for specific herbicide advice.

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