

Fighting the Good Fight: Buckthorn and Other Invasives in Your Woodlot

February 22nd, 2019













Biology and Life Cycle



Identification

Black fruits in dense clusters remain into winter



Opposite to sub-opposite leaves



Thorn-like tips located at the end of the twig



Dark grey to black bark with prominent small lenticels similar to birch





Biology and Life Cycle



- Dense thickets suppress shade-intolerant species
- Seeds can remain viable in the soil for up to 5 years
- Fallen seeds can produce a seedling in as little as 28 days







- Dry and moist habitats
- In almost any type of soil
- In sunny or shaded areas







Cut Buckthorn stump

- Noxious weed in the Weed
 Control Act
- Impacts to:
 - Biodiversity
 - Forestry
 - Agriculture
 - Recreation



Methods



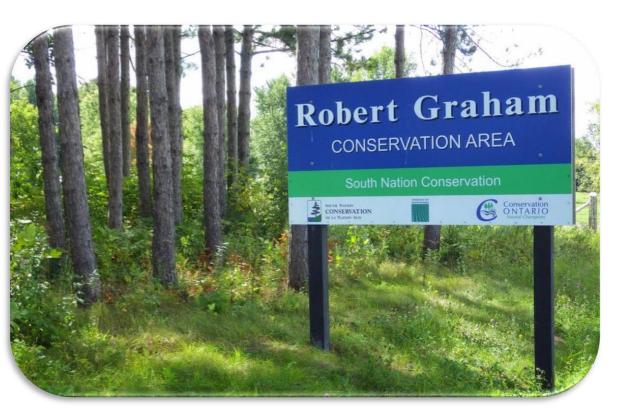
BMP Control Measures



- Chemical Control
 - Herbicide Application
- Mechanical Control
 - Hand Pulling
 - Cutting/girdling
 - Mowing
 - Grazing
 - Flooding
 - Disposal



Buckthorn Removal Trial

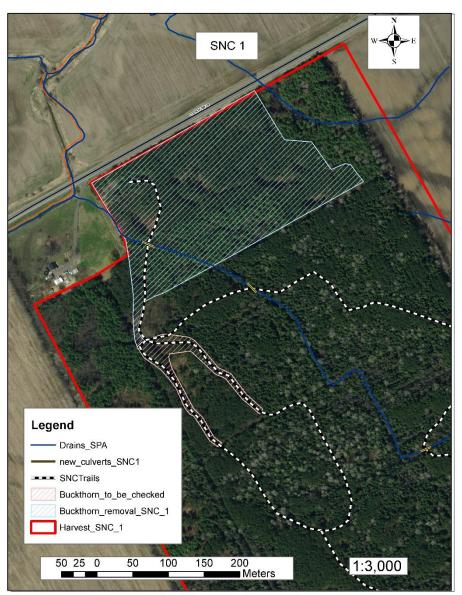


South Dundas County Road 18, Brinston

- 140 acre forest, 6.5 km maintained forest trail
- SNC's first acquired property in 1962
- Commercial harvest completed in 2001 and 2018



Robert Graham Conservation Area



- Thatched area indicates buckthorn removal site
- Approximately 5 acres in size
- Red Pine overstory
- Heavy infestation
 - Buckthorn dominant component of the understory







After brush cutting, pre-brush cutting comparison

- Mechanical and Chemical control
- Stumps cut using brush saws to remove large diameter seed bearing stems







- Controlled application using a bingo dabber in July
- Glyphosate with blue bye marker as per label
 - Systemic Herbicide.





- Hand pulling
- Weed Wrench
- Removal of smaller stems



Long term strategy



- Planted 600 potted native, species to encourage regeneration of desirable species
 - Sugar Maple, Red and Bur Oak
- Encourage natural regeneration of White Pine
- Follow up for a number of years

Our Local Environment, We're in it Together.

