The invasive garlic mustard (Alliaria petiolata) in Oklahoma



- Currently known from Cherokee, Delaware, Mayes, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Washington counties
- Onion or garlic odor when leaves and stems are crushed
- Produces a short rosette of leaves the first year of its life cycle and flowers and fruits in the second
- 1 4' in height; flowers small, white, four-petaled; one plant can produce hundreds of seeds
- Can spread in undisturbed areas and outcompete native species
- Tolerant of a wide range of light and soil conditions
- Allelopathic, releasing chemicals that hinder the growth of other species



Garlic mustard distribution in the U.S.

The best method for controlling garlic mustard is to prevent it from establishing. This includes limiting erosion-causing activities, monitoring the forest understory, and removing any newly established plants. Mechanical control methods include pulling seedlings, stem cutting at ground level, prescribed burning, and glyphosate application.





