**Twig Beads**

After removing shrubby invasives, take some time to make twig beads. Use the beads to make garlands, necklaces, or decorations for other art projects. Invasive honeysuckles, with their hollow pith, work especially well for this project.

**Materials:**
- Variety of twigs at least 3/8” in diameter (The more variety in color and texture, the more interesting the finished product.)
- Pruning shears or saws
- Vice or large clamps
- Hammers and nails or drills and bits to hollow out centers
- Carving tools
- Waxed dental floss

**Directions:**
1. Cut the twigs into bead-sized lengths. Vary the diameter of the twig, the length of the bead, and the angle of the cut to make a wide assortment.
2. Make a hole through each bead. If the center is soft, use a nail and hammer. If the center is hard, you will have to drill a hole through the bead. Use a vise to hold the bead during drilling. You can also drill a hole sideways through the bead for a completely different look.
3. Decorate the beads:
   - Peel off the bark. Peel just the outer bark on some. Peel the inner and outer bark off of others.
   - Carve designs such as grooves, dots, or spirals into the bark or the wood.
4. String the beads on dental floss and allow them to dry before use.