

The Tall Stump Treatment Method for Buckthorn

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How Can Woodland Owners Control Buckthorn?

Assume:

- One Person
- Limited time
- Limited funds
- Non-professional
- And assume. . . .

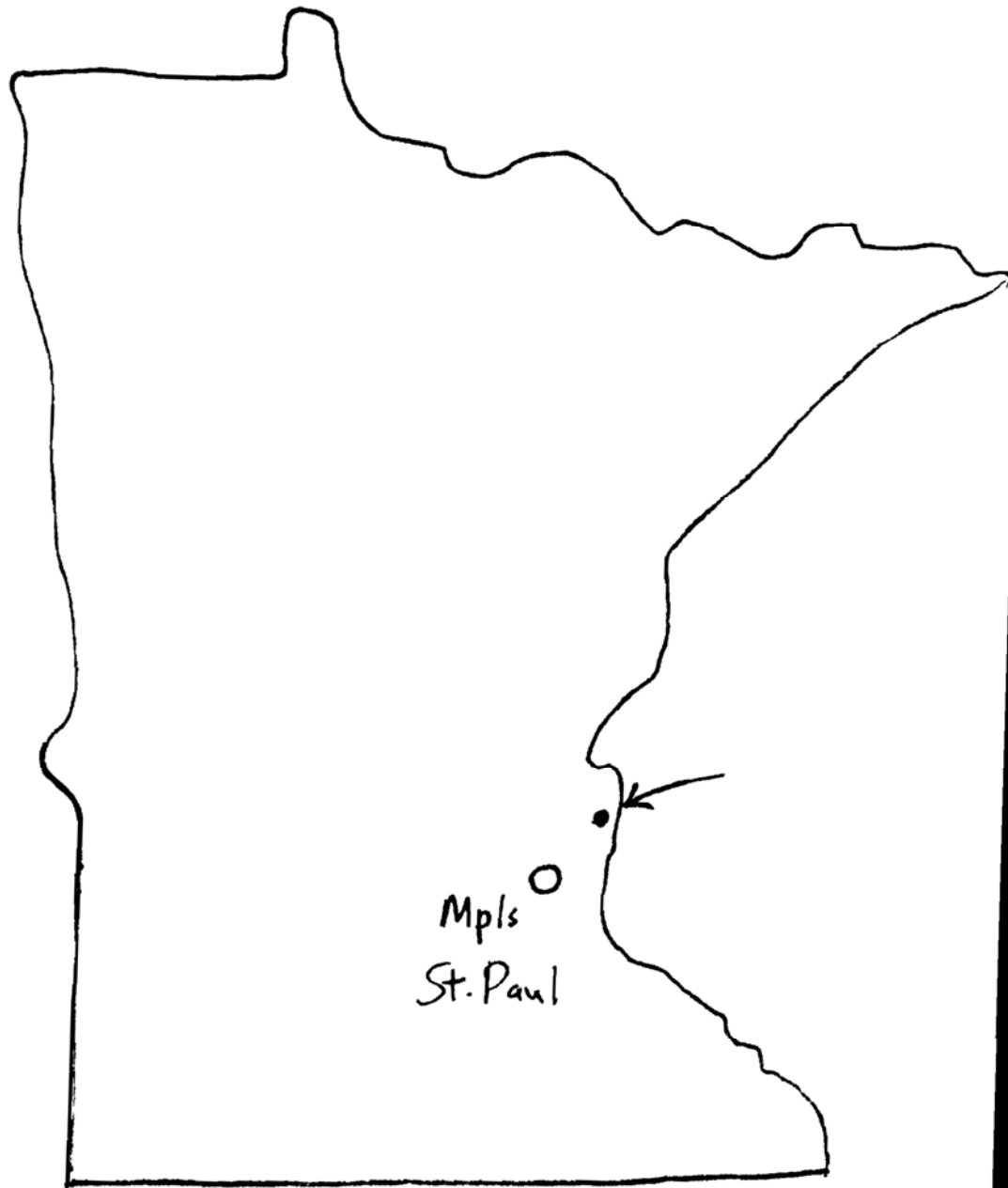
Invasives Anxiety!





Images from Buckthorn
Control Guide *Printed with Permission*





Family Property

- Washington County, Minnesota
- 12.5 acres
- Rolling hills
- Native habitat: oak savanna
- Nearby: old farm with buckthorn hedge

Family Property (con.)

- 1960s red and Scots pines planted
- Family began buckthorn control – late 1990s
- Forestry Management Plan – early 2000s















Three Phases of Tall Stump Treatment Method

- Preparation
- Cutting
- Treatment

First Phase - Preparation

Not out-of-the-ordinary:

- Determine Objectives
 - Convert to oak savanna and woodlands
 - Restore slowly
- Cruise Property
 - Mark desirable species
 - Identify worst buckthorn trees

Worst Buckthorn

- Berries are the key
- One mature female
 - 400 to 1800 fruits
 - 1200 to 5400 seeds
 - Over 5 year period =
6,000 to 27,000 seeds
- Ignore small trees



Traditional – 2nd Phase

- Pulling
- Girdling
- Foliar
- Basal Bark
- Cut Stump
- Frill (“cut and squirt”)

} Tall stump method
is combination of
these two with
some twists.

The 2nd phase of the tall
stump Method only
involves stump cutting

2nd Phase of Tall Stump: Cutting

- Tools: loppers and folding hand saw
- Cut trunk high
- Cut big branches
- Leave tall stumps





Tall Stumps
Can be
Quite Tall!



After cutting you can wait for months if you wish before 3rd Phase.

3rd Phase: Treatment

- Tools:
 - Scraper (or hatchet, machete, etc.)
 - Herbicide applicator
- Use frill method at tree base









3rd Phase: Treatment (con.)

- Winter – ideal time.
- Glyphosate (20% to 30% concentration).
- Control should be effective



Advantages of Tall Stump Treatment Method

First Advantage: Efficiency

- Fewer Tools for each phase:
 - Cutting phase – hand saw and loppers
 - Treatment phase – scraper and applicator
- One tool in each hand
- More space to work in treatment phase



Second Advantage: Split Work Up

- Cutting phase and treatment phase are distinct
 - Optimum cutting – late spring early summer
 - Optimum treatment – winter
- Can be separated by months

Third Advantage: Identification of Tall Stumps

- Easy to identify tall stumps for treatment
 - in snow or leaves after stump cutting
- Easy to identify dead tall stumps
 - avoid tripping on them



Fourth Advantage: Tree Tops Removed

- Reduces fire hazard
- Makes walking easy

Fifth Advantage: Better Outcomes

- Frill exposes more cambium for treatment than traditional cut stump = better outcomes
- Frill at base of tree is nearer roots and improves results



Sixth Advantage: Correctable

Failed Treatments can be easily corrected

Sixth Advantage: Correctable (con.)

- If you forget to treat a tall stump. . .
- Growth will occur at the top



Sixth Advantage: Correctable (con.)

- It's not difficult to:
- Cut top off and
- Treat again



Sixth Advantage: Correctable (con.)

- But at least you don't have a bush to deal with:



Seventh Advantage: Better for Environment

- No soil disturbance
- Better target surface means less herbicide
- Uses glyphosate – relatively benign

Eighth Advantage: One Person

One person can easily undertake

- Fewer tools
- Separated into phases
- Great exercise
- Quiet and great way to enjoy being in the woods

All of this helps to. . . .

Reduce Invasives Anxiety

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