Wayfaring-tree *Viburnum lantana*

**Native Origin:** Europe and western Asia

**Description:** A deciduous multi-steamed shrub in the honeysuckle family (Caprifoliaceae) reaching 10 to 15 feet in height and having a somewhat rounded shape. Leathery leaves (2 to 5 inches long) are opposite, simple, ovate with cordate or rounded bases and uniform serrations. The dark green to gray-green leaves turn a purplish-red color fall. Buds are naked, gray, and fuzzy. Small white flowers with yellow stamens, form flat-topped clusters (3 to 5 inches across), and bloom in mid-May. Flowers can have an unpleasant fishy odor. Berries are held in flat clusters with colors that change from green to red to blue-black in late summer to early autumn and are eaten by birds. It reproduces vegetatively or by seeds. Roots are fibrous.

**Habitat:** Wayfaring-tree grows in full sun to partial shade with fertile, well-drained, loamy soils. It can tolerate calcareous (containing calcium or lime) and dry soils. It is urban tolerant and often planted for hedges, borders, or as a deciduous screen shrub. It can also be found in moist forest habitats.

**Distribution:** This species is reported from states shaded on Plants Database map. It is reported invasive in IL, PA, and WI.

**Ecological Impacts:** It has a vigorous growth that over reaches intentional planting space and crowds out native species. Basal suckers grow beneath other species and quickly outgrow the area.

**Control and Management:**

- **Manual** - Girdle - remove bark and phloem layer from 10 cm band around trunk; cut stems with shears, chain saw and apply herbicides
- **Chemical** - It can be effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as glyphosate or triclopyr. Monitor and retreat regrowth or suckers. Follow label and state requirements.

**References:**
- http://plants.usda.gov
- www.nps.gov/plants/alien,
- www.hort.uconn.edu/Plants/v/viblan/viblan1.html, http://oregonstate.edu/dept/lilplants/vila-i.htm
- http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/CoopExt/4DMG/Trees/Shrubs/vlantana.htm

Produced by the USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Staff, Newtown Square, PA.  
Invasive Plants website:  http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/invasive_plants