Narrowleaf bittercress
Cardamine impatiens

**Habitat:**
- Stream banks, moist woods and thickets

**Ecological Impacts:**
- Seed pods burst open and project seeds to other areas which allows itself to create dense colonies, lowering diversity and quality of the habitat

**Timing:**
- Flowers May - July
- Fruits May - September

**Management:**
- Pull small infestations at the base of the stem. Focus on eradicating stands of 2nd year plants in flower or fruit.
- Those with flowers and/or fruit should be bagged and disposed of to prevent spread of seeds.
- Cutting flowering plants at the base will eradicate 99% of the plants and eliminate seed production

**Plant at a Glance:**
1. **Leaf:** Year 1, pinnately compound, leaflets have rounded lobes
   Year 2, pinnately compound, leaflets are elliptical
2. **Flower:** Year 1, *does not flower*
   Year 2, clusters at top and at end of branching stems, white to green in color, four-petaled
3. **Fruit:** Year 1, *does not fruit*
   Year 2, thin, straight pod, about 1 inch

*note: biennial life cycle

**Native Alternative:**
Pennsylvania bittercress, *Cardamine pensylvanica*

- **Habitat:** floodplain woodlands, swamps, shady seeps/springs, woodland paths, disturbed areas
- **Benefits and Uses:** visited by small bees and flower flies
- **Growing tips:** conditions with rich, loamy soil

References:


Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve
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