Garlic mustard
Alliaria petiolata

**HABITAT:**
- Shady areas, stream corridors, moist forest ground, wooded stream banks, roadsides, trail edges

**ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS:**
- Produces phytotoxic chemicals that interfere with other plant species growth

**TIMING:**
- Flowers March - July and seeds produced soon after
- Fruits ripen in mid-July and germinate through August

**MANAGEMENT:**
- Target 2nd year plants for chance that 1st year rosettes will not survive the winter
- For 2nd year: pull at base of stem to remove all roots when they have begun to flower or cut at base of stem to minimize disturbance
- Those with flowers and/or fruit should be disposed of in bags to prevent seed spread

**Plant at a Glance:**

1. **Leaf:** Year 1, kidney-shaped with horse-shoe base
   Year 2, alternating triangular, sharply-toothed with leaves
   Leaves have garlic odor when crushed in both stages

2. **Flower:** Year 1, *does not flower*
   Year 2, four white petals that narrow at base

3. **Fruit:** Year 1, *does not fruit*
   Year 2, long, narrow seed pods on short stalks

*note: biennial life cycle

**Native Alternative:**
Golden ragwort, *Packera aurea*
- Perennial herb
- Blooms March through August; yellow flowers
- **Habitat:** meadows, bogs, low woodlands
- **Benefits and Uses:** good ground cover, even in shady areas
- **Growing tips:** grows best in sun or part shade in moist soil

References:
<aknhp.uaa.alaska.edu/services/ANHP.cfm?method=downloadDocumentByUsdaCode&documentType=species_bio&usdaCode=ALPM4>

Photos:

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