**Oriental bittersweet**
*Celastrus orbiculatus*

**Habitat:**
- Open woods, thickets, roadides, upland meadows and young woods are the most vulnerable

**Ecological Impacts:**
- Vine will climb up nearby plants, shading their leaves
- Can smother trees and shrubs and uproot them with excessive weight of the vines

**Timing:**
- Blooms in mid to late spring (May to June)
- Fruits from July to October

**Management:**
- If the plant is thinner than a pencil, pull by roots (cutting vine can re-stimulate growth)
- Plants growing on trees or shrubs should be cut at ground level and again as high as possible
- If plant has fruits, remove and dispose of them in bags

**Plant at a Glance:**
1. **Leaf:** glossy and finely toothed\(^1\), oval to nearly round in shape, occur at different heights and sides of stem narrow point at tip
2. **Bark:** distinct lenticels
3. **Fruit:** bright yellow and red fruits that appear in clusters of 3 to 7 along the stem

**Native Alternative:**
American bittersweet, *Celastrus scandens*\(^1\)
- Perennial vine
- Blooms May - June, fruits July - October
- **Habitat:** open woods, woodland borders, shrubs, thickets
- **Benefits and Uses:** showy fruits, grows well on trellises
- **Growing tips:** full sun or light shade, heat and drought tolerant, need male and female to ensure pollination/fruits

**References:**


Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve
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