

Poison Parsnip came from Eurasia as a food crop but has spread throughout New England in the past 15 years. It outcompetes native plants and is hazard to hikers, gardeners, and children.

Cut or broken plants release a sap that causes blistering burns on your skin when exposed to sunlight. If you are exposed, shield the area from sun until washing with soap and water. Wash off as soon as possible. Keep covered for 48 hours to prevent a reaction.

- Type: perennial weed.
- Height: 2-5 feet tall.
- Habitat: roadsides, fencerows, fields.
- Stems: hollow, hairless, grooved stems.
- Flowers: yellow umbrels at the top of each plant (like yellow Queen Anne's Lace).
- Leaves: resemble large celery leaves – compound and branched with jagged teeth.



Please help manage Wild / Poison Parsnip.

What to Do:

- Wear gloves, long-sleeved shirt, pants, boots, and eye goggles. Work on cloudy days.
- Do not burn or compost these plants!
- Cut, pull, or mow plants before seeds mature in July-August.
- Cut the root 1" below the ground using a tool such as a spaded shovel or remove plants by hand pulling, gripping the stalk just above the ground.
- Mow when flowers first appear and before seeds enlarge.
- Cut off seed heads and bag them; close bag securely before disposal.
- Revisit all sites annually until none appear.

More information:

https://nyis.info/invasive_species/wild-parsnip/
<https://vtinvasives.org/invasive/wild-parsnip>



Photo credit:

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/health-environment/environmental-chemicals-pollutants/wild-poison-parsnip>

Tell Us:

- Was this information helpful? Need more? LaurelACopeland@gmail.com or LesleyPollitt@gmail.com or call Laurel at (802) 368-2439.