MILE-A-MINUTE WEED
Persicaria perfoliata

Identifiers

- Bright green and triangular leaves with barbs on stems
- Can grow up to 6 inches per day and are annual
- Blue and purple berries grow from these vines in the summer

An Invasive Species

- Native to India and Eastern Asia, was first introduced to Pennsylvania accidentally in the 1900's
- Grows rapidly in dense mats which suffocates native plants in the ecosystem

Controlling the population

- Removal may take up to 6 years in order to ensure dormant seeds do not emerge
- Mile-a-minute weevals, which are small insects that feed on mile-a-minute leaves, have been used to slow seed production
- Mowing, cutting, and root removal by hand are most effective in young plants. Herbicides can be utilized regardless of age.

Sources:

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- https://www.michigan.gov/invasives/0,5664,7-324-68002_71240_73852-367890--,00.html
- http://nyis.info/invasive_species/mile-a-minute/
- https://extension.psu.edu/mile-a-minute