



OGDEN'S DESIGN & PLANTINGS, INC.

WWW.OGDENS.COM

TEL: (631) 473-5064

POISON IVY

Design & Installation:

- Natural Gardens
- Japanese Gardens
- Bed Maintenance
- Therapeutic Gardens
- Paths & Patios
- Stone & Brickwork
- Specialty Gardens
- Seasonal Color & Interest

September To-Do List:

- Order autumn annuals
- Order spring bulbs for fall planting
- Renovate, fertilize and repair lawn
- Do NOT fertilize trees or shrubs
- Selectively prune now
- Divide and transplant early blooming perennials
- Change irrigation to your fall watering schedule

Ogdenwords:

Serrated: with notches like the teeth of a saw.

Toxic: causing serious harm or death.

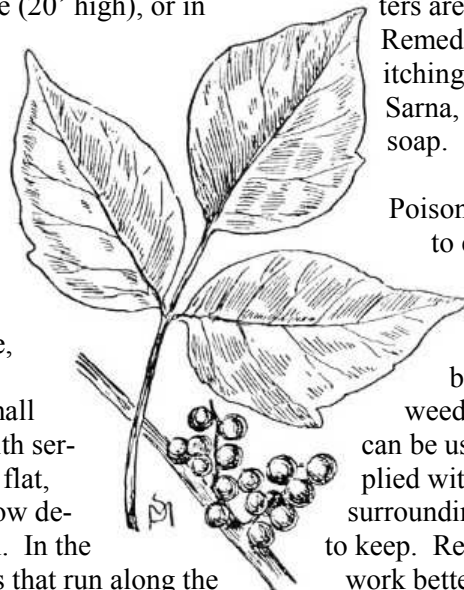
Pod: the long narrow outer case holding the seeds of a plant such as the pea or bean.

The bane of many a gardener's life, poison ivy is a plant that we should all learn to identify and know what remedies to use if we are allergic.

Poison ivy, a deciduous plant, can grow as a low horizontal groundcover (under 3"), as an upright vine (20' high), or in the form of a small shrub (up to 4' tall). The common saying 'Leaves of three, let them be' is a good start when trying to identify poison ivy, but it is important to realize that there is a wide range in leaf size, shape and color. The three leaves can be small or large, smooth or with serrated edges, glossy or flat, and green, red or yellow depending on the season. In the winter tiny black hairs that run along the entire length of the stem or vine make it easy to recognize.

The oil from the plant (urushiol) is toxic. This oil is produced in the leaves, stems and roots. Spreading the oil causes the rash to spread. Exposure to the oil at any time of the year can cause a reaction. Handling roots or vines in

the winter will cause a rash. Often the rash occurs from residual oil on fabric (clothes or bed sheets). Inhaling smoke from the burning plant can be lethal too. A common misconception is that the rash spreads when the blisters from the rash bursts. But the blisters are only filled with water. Remedies to counteract the itching include gasoline, Sarna, Tecnu and Boraxo soap.



Poison ivy is a difficult plant to eradicate since birds and animals, who are not allergic, redistribute the plant by eating the berries. A weedkiller, like Roundup, can be used; but it must be applied with care since it may kill surrounding plants that you want to keep. Removing by hand might work better. Put a plastic bag over your arm to avoid touching the plant. Then, pull out the plant with the plastic bag and turn the bag over the plant. Throw it all away together. To avoid redistribution do NOT compost.

If you have poison ivy in your garden and need help eradicating it, call us and we'll be happy to help.

Please check our website or Facebook for upcoming lecture dates

www.ogdens.com

or

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To Stop the Itch...
Call (631) 473-5064