

# **Division of Forestry – Silviculture Handbook**

## **Draft Guidance – Chapter 45, Black Walnut Plantations - Interplanting**

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The attached guidance is a revision to the Silviculture Handbook (Handbook 2431.5), Chapter 45, regarding the interplanting of autumn olive shrubs within black walnut plantations. The Silviculture Handbook is used primarily by State, County, industrial, and cooperating consultant foresters to provide appropriate silvicultural information and recommendations for managing forested lands.

This Silviculture Handbook revision is to correct outdated recommendations within Chapter 45 – Black Walnut that promotes the planting of autumn olive shrubs within black walnut plantations. Autumn olive is currently identified as a restricted invasive species under Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 40. Restricted invasive species are defined as species that are already established in the state and cause or have the potential to cause significant environmental or economic harm or harm to human health. Language regarding autumn olive planting was removed, as this species is no longer recommended for planting.

Comments related to this draft guidance document should be sent to Greg Edge, [Gregory.Edge@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Gregory.Edge@wisconsin.gov); (608) 785-9011. Once the 21 day notice is complete, all comments will be considered and revisions will be made to the guidance as needed. Final guidance will be made available to appropriate internal and external stakeholders, and will be posted at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestmanagement/silviculture.html>

***From page 45-3 of the Black Walnut Chapter, highlighted and strikethrough language removed.***

b) *Interplanting*

Other trees or shrubs may be interplanted with walnut for any number of reasons: to meet aesthetic goals, to provide wildlife cover or food, to yield an intermediate crop such as Christmas trees, or to serve as trainers or nitrogen-fixing species to stimulate black walnut growth.

~~Autumn olive appears to be the most desirable species for interplanting. An attractive shrub bearing a bright red berry that is relished by birds, it also fixes nitrogen and adds it to the soil in a form available to walnut.~~

White pine appears to be best suited for forcing height growth and providing an intermediate Christmas tree crop.