

# WISCONSIN WILDCARDS



ALIEN INVADERS



# GREATER CELANDINE

*Chelidonium majus*

## BASIC ID

This herbaceous biennial reaches 12–30" in height, with ribbed stems and alternate, deeply-lobed leaves. When branches and leaves are broken, a yellow-orange sap is exposed. Flowers are bright yellow and bloom from May to June, producing distinctive oblong seed pods which contain black seeds. It has a shallow root system.

## FACTS

Native to Europe, it grows in open to lightly shaded areas, as well as moist to dry places: forests, thickets, fields, hedgerows, roadsides, and disturbed sites. The movement and dispersal of the seeds is facilitated by ants that are attracted to oil on the seeds. It quickly becomes abundant and poses a threat to native species and tree regeneration.

**CAUTION:** It is poisonous to humans and animals and the sap can cause skin irritations.

## MANAGEMENT

- Hand pull. **WEAR GLOVES.**
- Mow to prevent flowering and seed development.
- Apply herbicide to leaves before flowering.

Photos: Robert Vidéki, *Doronicum Kft.*, Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org  
Printed on recycled paper



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