



# WIPE YOUR FEET!



This year's Leadership Charlevoix County class is hard at work on their Community Service Project – installing Boot Brush Stations at local trails in Charlevoix County to reduce the spread of invasive species. The project is affectionately called “Wipe Your Feet!”

## What's the problem?

Invasive species can impact our local nature trails and parks, and most of us don't even notice when they appear. Organizations such as CAKE CISMA (Charlevoix, Antrim, Kalkaska, Emmet Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area) are aware of the issue, and have partnered with Leadership Charlevoix County to do our part in preventing the spread of these plants. Similar to the effect zebra mussels have on lakes throughout our region, if we aren't careful, invasive plants can spread all over our beautiful Northern Michigan habitat.

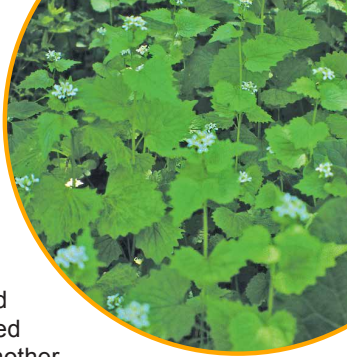


Illustration: University of Wisconsin Extension



## **An Example of an Invasive Plant**

Garlic mustard, and other similar plants, outcompete many native species for sunlight and nutrients.



- Non-native seed and plant parts are carried from one place to another on our shoes, vehicle tires, by the wind and flowing water.
- Garlic mustard is a non-native invasive plant—one of many that were accidentally or intentionally introduced to Michigan.

### **Involved Parties**

1. **CAKE CISMA** – This project is in partnership with the Charlevoix, Antrim, Kalkaska, Emmet Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area.
2. **Leadership Charlevoix County (LCC)** – The LCC Class of 2017 has selected this for their community service project.
3. **Property Owners** – The property owner for each trail will be actively involved with each boot cleaning station, including final approval on placement and signage.
4. **Antrim Conservation District (ACD)** – ACD will act as the fiduciary for all the funds raised. All monies collected for “Wipe Your Feet” will go directly to the protection of trails in Charlevoix County.

### **Sponsorships**

#### **Full Sign Sponsor – \$525**

- Company logo or sponsor name on one boot brush station.
- Recognition on the Leadership Charlevoix County website.
- All donations will be eligible for tax exemption.

#### **All Other Sponsors – Under \$525**

- All donations will be recognized with a thank you and tax exemption if the donor is identifiable.

For additional information on the project, or to donate, please visit us online at:

**[LeadershipCharlevoixCounty.com](http://LeadershipCharlevoixCounty.com)**