



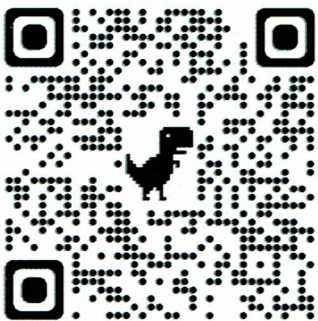
# Beware!



## English Ivy can kill your trees!

Both a climbing vine and a groundcover, English ivy climbs trees in search of light, kills branches by covering leaves and preventing photosynthesis. Its sheer weight makes trees susceptible to blow-over during inclement weather. On the ground, it forms dense monocultures that exclude native plants. English ivy is also a reservoir for Bacterial Leaf Scorch (*Xylella fastidiosa*), a threat to native trees including Red Oak!

◀ [English ivy strangling trees at Odessa's Memorial Park on West Main Street.](#)



To control the spread of English ivy, flowers or berries can be clipped off before going to seed. If the vine is climbing up a tree or structure, a gap cut can be made to kill the above-ground portion of the vine. Once the ground has thawed in the spring, any seedlings or root that has re-sprouted from the base can be pulled or dug from the soil. Keep checking the area periodically to remove any sprout before they take off and be sure to dispose of them so they do not take root in your compost pile. Ivy only sets flowers and fruit after it climbs and becomes woody and mature, not in its juvenile stage as a groundcover. **Scan the QR code on the left to learn more on how to control this destructive invasive vine.**