



Photos by Chris Evans, Used with permission

Heavenly Bamboo - *Nandina domestica*

6-8 feet tall, or 3-4 feet
for dwarf varieties



Photos by James H. Miller, Used with permission

White flowers in spring, red
berries in fall, evergreen or mostly
evergreen

Very hard to remove manually: roots are very difficult to pull up and even a tiny piece of root left will resprout

Shrubs can be foliar sprayed with Glyphosate when other plants are dormant.

Triclopyr is also effective as a foliar spray (though probably not during the dormant season) or can be applied to cut stems any time other than during spring sap rise.

Berries contain cyanide and have been documented to kill birds. Since it is from Asia, American birds did not evolve with it and don't recognize it as toxic. Acute toxicity is related to the amount of berries consumed: cedar waxwings were killed by it because of their voracious eating habit. When birds eat only a few berries, they survive and spread the species. Also dangerous for pets and livestock (or children!) if they eat too much of it.

It grows in sun or shade and will become thick in the forest understory, like bush honeysuckle.

Nandina has been reported to be escaping in the Springfield, MO area and has already spread widely in Arkansas and Tennessee. Keep an eye out for it and kill it fast! And tell your friends not to plant it...