

Scrape & Paint Method.



1. Cut loose hanging ivy around the base to expose stems growing on trunk.

DO NOT CUT STEMS



2. Gently prise the stems away from the trunk where possible. Scrape the stems all around the base of the tree using a chisel or strong knife to expose the sapwood.



3. Immediately apply herbicide to scraped areas of stem using the dabber bottle. Ensure good coverage of the wound. Wear protective waterproof gloves.

It takes several weeks for the Ivy to die.

Use both methods together on fibrous bark trees. To apply more herbicide you can cut and paint but also scrape & paint the stems and roots.



Community
Weed Alliance of the
Dandenongs



English Ivy and other invasive creepers such as Japanese Honeysuckle, Banana Passionfruit and Jasmine strangle and kill trees and escape from gardens into native bushland.

English Ivy smothers the ground and climbs up trees and other vegetation or vertical surfaces. Once elevated it produces flowers and clusters of berries which are spread over a wide area by birds.



Ivy kills the host plant, smothers native groundcovers, and in forests prevents animals & lyrebirds foraging for food.

Simple and effective methods to kill exotic creepers growing in trees are explained here - using small inexpensive hand tools, taking minimal time, preventing damage to other species and minimising use of herbicides.

Target Ivy up trees first.

About CWAD

The Community Weed Alliance of the Dandenongs formed in 2013 to deal with the growing weed problem across the Dandenong Ranges landscape. CWAD is an alliance of local groups and individuals collectively working as a Task Force to restore our natural environment and enhance biodiversity.

For more information or to be involved:

P.O. Box 20 Sassafra Victoria 3787

Visit our website: <http://www.cwad.org.au>

To see the impact of English Ivy in the Dandenong Ranges visit Weedinongs.org

Community
Weed Alliance of the
Dandenongs



Working towards a
weed free Dandenong Ranges



**IVY
KILLS
TREES**



How to kill English Ivy and other invasive creepers on trees and tree ferns.

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Tools you will need:

Cutting tool will depend on the size of stem you need to cut.



Secateurs or lopper or pruning or bow saw.

Levering tool

Small crow bar or hammer or screwdriver.



Levering & Scraping tool

Chisel or knife



Protective waterproof gloves

Dabber bottle - Recycled liquid shoe polish bottle - filled with *Herbicide*.

Neat (undiluted) Glyphosate with red food dye added for OHS & to see where applied.



Preparation:

Clear work space by removing excess bark or cutting back weeds eg: blackberries. Fill dabber bottle with herbicide & a dash of red food dye.

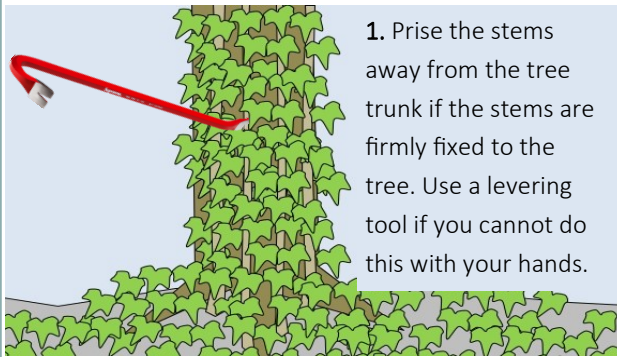
Adapted with permission from training notes by Darcy Duggan. Some cut & paint illustrations adapted from Green Shoots Online®.



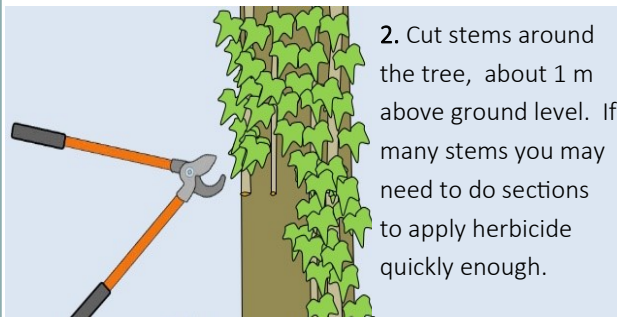
The method to use depends upon the type of tree Ivy is growing on.

For trees with smooth or hard trunks use the **Cut & Paint** method. For Tree Ferns and trees with thick fibrous barks such as Stringybark you will need to use the **Scrape & Paint** method. Ivy on fibrous barks and Tree Ferns will continue to grow even if stems are severed from the ground roots as it also roots into the trunk for nutrients.

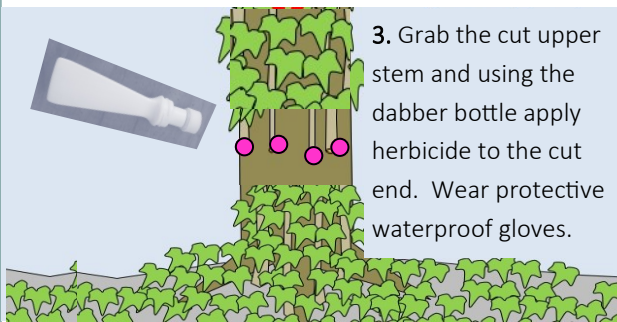
Cut & Paint Method.



1. Prise the stems away from the tree trunk if the stems are firmly fixed to the tree. Use a levering tool if you cannot do this with your hands.



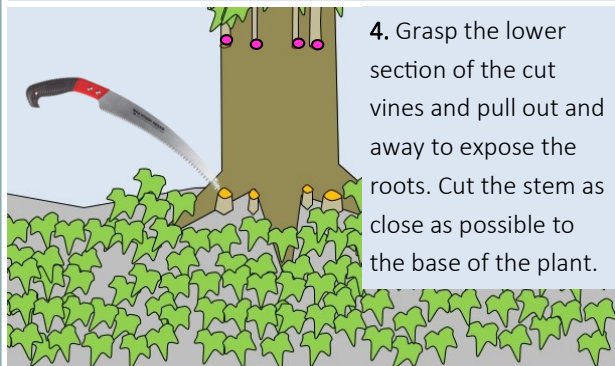
2. Cut stems around the tree, about 1 m above ground level. If many stems you may need to do sections to apply herbicide quickly enough.



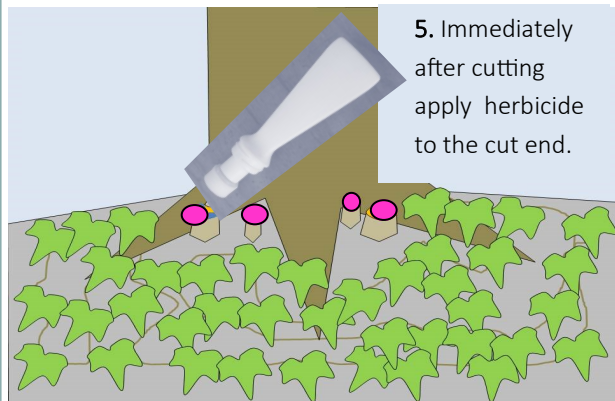
3. Grab the cut upper stem and using the dabber bottle apply herbicide to the cut end. Wear protective waterproof gloves.



It is critical herbicide is applied as quickly as possible after cutting or scraping to get the poison through the plant, certainly within one minute! This is because the plants natural response is callusing - to seal off the wound which reduces the uptake of the herbicide.

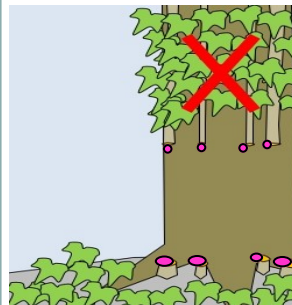


4. Grasp the lower section of the cut vines and pull out and away to expose the roots. Cut the stem as close as possible to the base of the plant.



5. Immediately after cutting apply herbicide to the cut end.

6. Pickup and remove all cut pieces of vine. Tie into bundles and remove or place in elevated tree fork to dry out. Clear the ground Ivy around the trunk.



Do not pull vines from the upper part of the tree, this defeats the purpose of cutting and painting and you may damage the tree. The tops severed from the roots will die on their own.

For very thick stems & roots you can drill shallow holes & fill with herbicide. Contact CWAD for more info on this technique.