

Piseco's

LEAST WANTED!



Leaf, with toothed
leaflet pairs



Stalk has ridges



A single flower has
many florets



Cut stalk is hollow



Can form dense stands
and degrade meadows

Wild Yellow Parsnip

Wild Yellow Parsnip (herbaceous biennial)

- **Sap is phototoxic:** it causes serious skin burns if exposed to sun
- Flat topped yellow flowers, similar to Queen Ann's Lace, bloom in June or July
- Leaves are alternate and compound; leaflet pairs are oblong, toothed & mitten shaped
- Seeds mature in August, are round and flat; the tan seeds are viable for 4 years
- Can form dense stands. The plant is increasingly common in Lake Pleasant and along Rte 8 and Rte 10; not yet widespread near Piseco
- Biennial: first year plant is a low, basal rosette of leaves
second year plants can be 4' tall; the hollow stalk has deep grooves

Control:

- Dress to cover skin with gloves, long sleeves and trousers; protect eyes from sap
- Work on cloudy days; avoid direct sunlight for 48 hours after working with the plant
- Wash skin and clothes immediately after working with the plant
- First-year plants are easy to pull or dig if ground is wet
- Use a shovel to cut second-year flowering plants below root crown before seeds start to form, to prevent re-sprouts
- Carefully dispose any ripening seed heads in trash bags
- Act promptly to halt infestations
- **If plants are more than 100' from a waterbody or wetland, and on your own land,** herbicide should be effective to control large colonies if selectively applied to the basal rosettes in fall or in early spring

Sources for more information and photos:

Hamilton County Conservation District: [wild parsnip information](#) with photo credits

NY Invasive Species Information: http://nyis.info/invasive_species/wild-parsnip/

VT Department of Health <https://www.healthvermont.gov/health-environment/environmental-chemicals-pollutants/wild-poison-parsnip>

VT Invasives Information on Wild Parsnip: <https://vtinvasives.org/invasive/wild-parsnip>

Ontario Invading Species - Wild Parsnip: <http://www.invadingspecies.com/wild-parsnip/>