

the ZANFEL ZONE

Your Information Resource for Poison Ivy, Oak and Sumac

Volume 4, Issue 4

Merry Christmas and welcome to the Zanafel Zone! We'd like to say "Thank You" for your interest and support of Zanafel this year. Below are some articles that will help you to identify and prevent wintertime cases of poison ivy.

Calling All Landscapers, Tree Care Experts, and Poison Ivy First Responders!

Please join us at the 2015 Philadelphia Poison Ivy Conference!



April 7 – 9, 2015

Philadelphia Horticultural Center, Philadelphia, PA

For more information or to register:

<http://www.idontwantpoisonivy.com/conference>

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WANT TO LEARN MORE?

[Click here](#) to order informational materials - for FREE!

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Myth: It is safe to handle poison ivy, oak, and sumac plants in the winter.

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Fact: In winter, exposure to the plants' vines, twigs, or roots can cause an allergic skin reaction (just as they would any other time of the year).

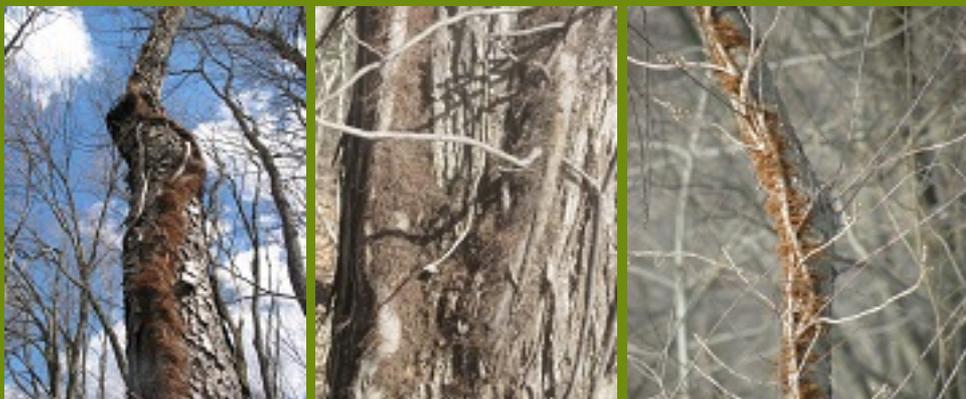
Identifying Poison Ivy In The Winter

In the spring, summer, and fall, "leaves of three, let it be" is a commonly used phrase to help identify poison ivy. How about in the winter when the leaves are gone?

One helpful phrase we've heard to help identify poison ivy and its relatives in the winter is "berries white, run in fright". Poison ivy, oak, and sumac all have white-ish berries, which can remain on the plants during the winter.



Another helpful phrase is "hairy vine, no friend of mine". Eastern poison ivy vines grow hair-like roots, which the plant uses to grasp the outside of trees. Vines with hairy looking roots are a danger for anyone who is trimming tree branches or collecting firewood. It's important to inspect for the presence of these vines if you purchase a fresh cut Christmas tree.



Be sure to check for pieces of poison ivy vines that sometimes cling to firewood. The poison ivy toxin, urushiol, is stable at high temperatures and can be carried aloft by smoke particles from burning poison ivy, oak, and sumac. Breathing this smoke can cause severe/systemic cases of poison ivy, respiratory distress, or even death.

Follow Zanafel on Twitter



Please follow us on Twitter [@ZanafelPoisonIvy](https://twitter.com/ZanafelPoisonIvy)

We'll Tweet helpful information on poison ivy, oak, and sumac throughout the year. Thank you to everyone who has followed us!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Thank you for your continued interest and support of Zanafel Poison Ivy Wash. Additionally, we would like to wish you and your family a very blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Please be watching for the next Zanafel Zone e-newsletter in 2015!

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