

CREEPING CHARLIE

Glechoma hederacea



Hoosier Heartland RC & D

Mature Height	A few Inches	Soil Type	Shady and Moist
Mature Spread	Up to 30 inches per plant	Flower Color	Blue to Lavender
Mature Form	Prostrate	Foliage Color	Glossy Green to Purple
Growth Rate	Rapid	Fall Color	Green to dormant brown
Sun Exposure	Prefers Shade		
Soil Moisture	Moist		

Creeping Charlie, also known as ground ivy and creeping jenny, is a low-growing perennial weed that thrives in moist, shady areas of the lawn and garden, but will invade sunny areas. The four-sided stems grow to lengths of 15-30 inches with roots forming at the nodes, where leaves join the stem. Its leaves resemble those of the common geranium, round and scalloped, but are much smaller in size. In the early spring an abundance of tiny, lavender to blue flowers appear on 2 or 3-inch spikes. It has a minty smell when mowed. You may control creeping charlie chemically by applying a herbicide containing 2,4-D and MCPP as its active ingredients. The herbicide will damage or possibly kill any woody or broad-leaved vegetation that comes in contact with the spray, so it must be used with caution. Always follow label directions. Fall spraying is best.



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This fact sheet was developed by the West Central Indiana Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) with funding by the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. The CWMA consists of 27 western and central Indiana counties and strives to help land users identify and control invasive terrestrial plants through workshops, field days and other educational activities.

