Common Buckthorn was imported from Eurasia in the 1800’s for landscaping and hedge purposes and soon became invasive. It invades forests, riparian areas as well as savannas, prairies, old fields and roadsides. It leafs out very early in the spring and keeps its leaves late into the fall. Creates dense shade, eliminating regeneration of tree seedlings and understory species. This is another of the invasive plants that has an allelopathy effect releasing chemicals that inhibit the growth of other vegetation, especially desirable native plants. Twig end in thorns. Cut stump treatment with a 50% glyphosate is an effective control measure.