The traits that made the Purple Winter Creeper a great ornamental have now caused it to become a highly invasive plant. Those traits included rapid growth, evergreen color, glossy leaves and tolerance to harsh growing conditions. It out competes native plants by blocking sunlight, depleting soil moisture and nutrients, and by forming such a dense mat that it impedes or stops the growth of native plants. Vines growing vertical on trees can eventually overtop them and stop photosynthesis by the tree. Control is best achieved by injuring the plant with a weed eater, lawnmower or other tool and spraying the plant with a systemic herbicide such as glyphosate or triclopyr.

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