

Italian Arum

Arum italicum

Italian arum is a nonnative species sometimes grown for its beauty. Left untended, its presence can be harmful in community gardens.

Identification

- Green, arrowhead-shaped leaves with white veins
- Hoodlike flowers blooming in early summer
- Long clusters of red berries in late summer



Potential impacts

- **Highly toxic** by ingestion
- Moderate to severe skin irritation
- Outcompetes crops and native plants
- Very difficult to remove



Removal

- Wear gloves to protect hands from skin irritation
- Dig out roots, **carefully removing root fragments and tubers**
- Cut stems with berries
- Put all plant matter in a sealed bag in trash bins instead of compost to prevent spread

