

# Autumn Olive

## *Elaeagnus umbellata*

### Invasive Species in MA

*Found in disturbed areas, roadsides, and pastures.*



- A deciduous shrub/small tree, growing up to 20 x 30 ft
- Sprouts red berries with small silver scales, which is why it's also called 'Silverberry'
- Introduced to the US in the mid-1900s as erosion control

### What makes it invasive?

- Autumn olive *changes the surrounding soil chemistry*, causing native plants to die. [Learn more:](#)
- It is also *extremely resilient*, and can survive in nutrient poor soil.
- It has a long growing season, and *often sprouts before native plants.*



*Placard posted as a Girl Scout Gold Award project by Anastasia Brunker, 2024.*