

Eastern Poison Ivy

LATIN NAME: *Toxicodendron radicans*

CLASS: Poison Oaks

CONSERVATION STATUS: Secure

Recognize it by remembering "leaves of three, let it be!" The center leaflet has a longer leaf stalk.

The berries contain the toxin Saponin, which causes nausea & vomiting.

Urushiol oil can stay active on any surface, including dead plants, for 1 to 5 years!

Humans and some primates are the only animals that get a rash from Poison Ivy.

Poison Ivy can be found in forests, fields, wetlands, and along streams, roadsides, and even in urban environments, such as parks and backyards.

Poison Ivy was named by Captain John Smith in 1609.

1/4 ounce of urushiol oil is all that is needed to cause a rash in every person on earth.

500 people could get a rash from the amount of oil covering the head of a pin!

Poison Ivy leaves come in many shapes and can be smooth, rounded, or spiny.

For any wildlife-related concern, please call the LaRC Environmental Office (Ande Remington) at 864-8332

environmental.larc.nasa.gov

Data obtained from the National Wildlife Federation and the National Geographic



Poison Ivy grows in Canada, Eastern United States, and as far west as Arizona and New Mexico.



Wild Turkeys, Bobwhite Quails, and Crows are just some of the birds that like to eat Poison Ivy berries in the winter.



Poison Ivy leaves are red in spring; green in summer; and yellow, orange, or red in the fall.