

Poison Ivy
Rhus radicans

The shape of the plant and the leaves vary, it can be a groundcover, small shrub or very tall vine. The leaf margins can be entire (smooth) or toothed. The veins in the leaves are pinnate (parallel to each other and coming off the midrib in a uniform pattern). It is rarely affected by insects or disease so is a healthy looking plant. All parts of the plant are toxic but it is especially important to avoid contact when it is hot outside. Also avoid inhalation if it is burning as it will cause blisters in your lungs.

Vine on sound barrier on Terry Fox south of Hazeldean Rd.



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Vines on the sound barrier on Eagleson south of Hazeldean Rd.



Written and photographed by M A Jackson-Hughes

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Groundcover vines along the Trans Canada Trail east and west of Eagleson Rd.



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Poison Ivy mixed in with Englemanns Ivy



Plants in a neglected part of a garden.



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Note the variable leaf margins (the edge of the leaf can be toothed or smooth)