

# Native Grape vs. Non-Native, Invasive Porcelainberry

Two of the hardest plants to distinguish are the Native Grape vines (*Vitis*, 5 species) vs. the Porcelainberry or Asian grape (*Ampelopsis brevipedunculata*). Here are five reliable characteristics to help obtain a positive identification.



## Look for the vines:

- Native grape vines are dark brown and stringy
- Porcelainberry vines are gray-brown and bumpy

## Look for the position of the flowers/fruit:

- Native grape rarely flowers or fruits (3/4 of the plants/vines are male) and has extreme variability; however flowers and fruits will hang below the vine
- Porcelainberry flowers and fruits are held up above the vine

## Look for the color of the fruit:

- Native grape fruit start off pale green and ripen to a dark purple/black
- Porcelainberry fruit start off a pale green and ripen to a variety of colors from white to pink to blue to purple

## Leaf hairs:

- Grapes are either hairless, semi-hairy (veins covered) or very hairy (undersides covered)
- Porcelainberry only has hair on the veins, petioles or twigs

## As a last resort, as you'll have to cut the vine and look for the pith:

- The center of the stem of older grape vines is dark brown (newer, younger growth is white)
- The center of the stem of the older porcelainberry is white

