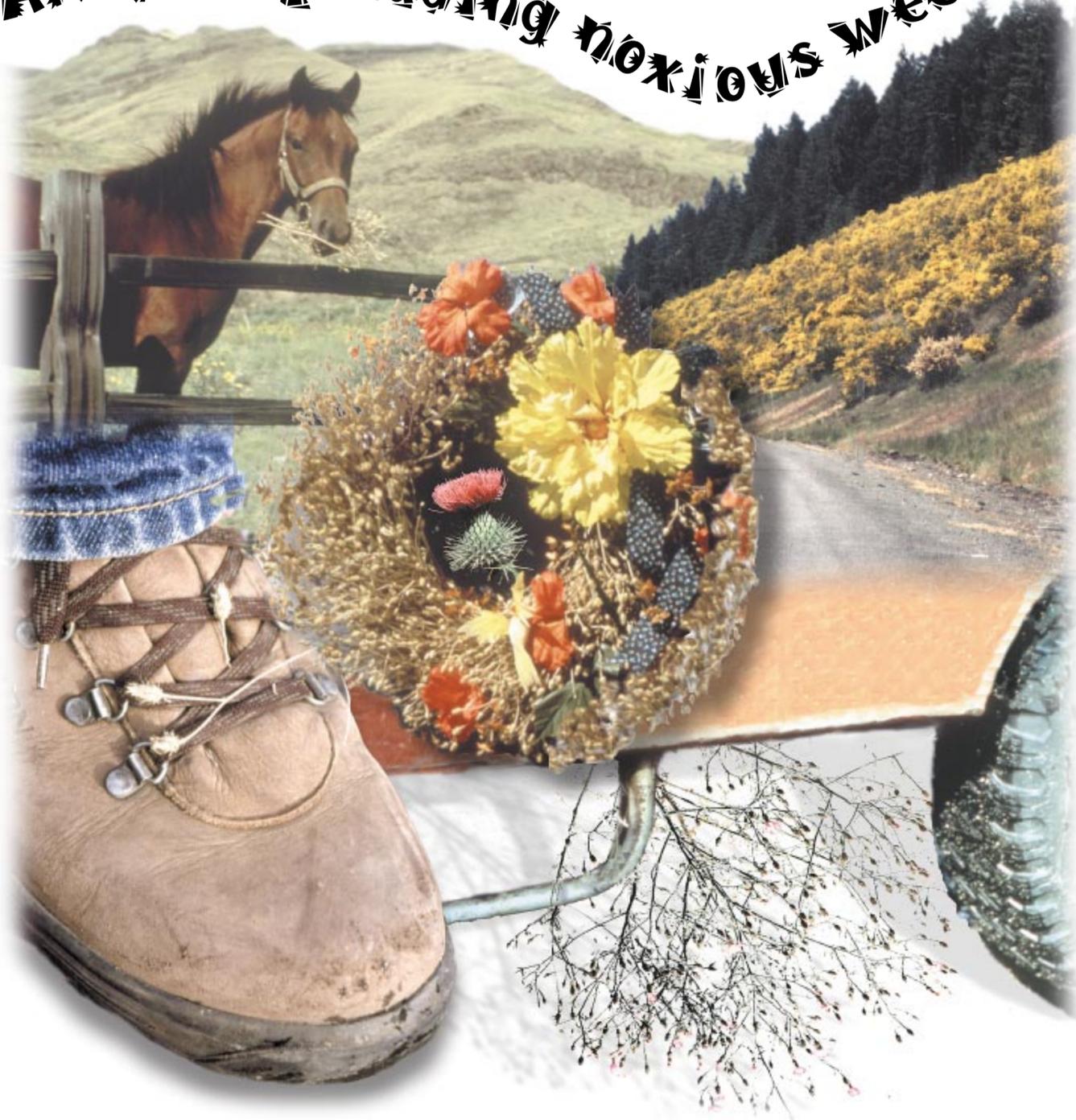


# Weed Invasion!

Are you spreading noxious weeds?

Throughout Washington noxious weeds are spreading at an alarming rate. They are seriously threatening our rangelands, forests, wetlands and croplands. Popular recreation areas, such as National Forests, are at high risk for noxious weed invasion.



Weeds and weed seeds move easily from one location to another. Many have hooks and spines allowing them to cling to the tires and undercarriages of our vehicles, or to hitch hike on our socks and shoelaces and on our pets and pack animals. Some may even be transported in decorative floral arrangements. Don't give them a chance to spread!

## What You Can Do

### Control weeds on your property.

Contact your local county weed board for plant identification and for the best method of elimination.

**Be an informed gardener.** Do not plant invasive weeds in your yard. Do not spread seeds through compost, topsoil or mulch piles.

**Become familiar with local noxious weeds** and inform others.

**Keep vehicle out of weed patches.** Drive on established roads. Check your tires and undercarriages. Remove clinging weeds before leaving the area.

**Walk on established trails.** Check your socks, shoes, and pants cuffs for plant material before and after hiking.

**Identify the problem.** Properly managed land will prevent new infestations and eliminate recurring infestations.

**Feed pack animals processed food pellets** before and during backcountry trips to avoid transporting seed in animal feces.

**Check your watercraft and trailer** for clinging aquatic weeds.

**Aquarium and aquatic garden plants** often survive and thrive in our natural areas. Properly dispose of aquatic plants.

**Volunteer to control weeds** in your city, county and National Forest.

**Report weed sites** to the local county weed board or any Forest Service office.

## WANTED DEAD NOT ALIVE!



Tansy Ragwort



Spotted Knapweed



Orange Hawkweed



Purple Loosestrife



Parrotfeather



Herb Robert

# Noxious Weeds

First introduced with European settlement, weeds have become a headache for homeowners, ranchers and gardeners. These non-native plants continue to arrive, increasing in number and spreading to new locations.

## What Are They?

not native invasive aggressive outcompeting natives in your yard  
 have no natural predators or diseases a serious global problem



Japanese Knotweed



Giant Hogweed

These two species of noxious weeds are a common problem to land owners in many areas.

“Noxious” is a legal designation for many kinds of weeds. The designation is determined by a weed’s potential threat ecologically, socially or economically and may vary by state and county. Some classes of noxious weeds are legally mandated by the state for control by landowners. Practical control methods vary depending on the weed species, and the size and location of the population.

## Why Care?

Weeds displace native plants, reduce habitat for native animals and threaten diversity of wildlands. They spoil pastures and rangelands, alter soil fertility, dry up water supplies, poison animals, decrease agricultural production, clog rivers, and reduce the recreational value of wildlands.

Weed control is extremely expensive. In the U.S. introduced weeds are spreading and invading approximately 1.7 million acres per year of wildlife habitat alone. Crop losses are estimated at \$26 billion a year.

Controlling noxious weeds is everyone’s responsibility. Now is the time to take action against these invaders! For more information on noxious weeds or to report noxious weed sightings, please call your local county noxious weed board listed below.

Clallam County...360-417-2442  
 Clark County...360-254-2034  
 Grays Harbor Co...360-482-2265  
 Island County...360-321-5111, ext. 211  
 King County...206-296-0290

Lewis County...360-740-1215  
 Pacific County...360-875-9425  
 Pierce County...253-798-7263  
 San Juan County...360-376-4095  
 Skagit County...360-336-9430

Skamania County...509-427-9416  
 Snohomish County...360-862-7523  
 Thurston County...360-786-5576  
 Wahkiakum Co...360-795-3852  
 Whatcom County...360-354-3990



Washington State  
 Noxious Weed  
 Control Board  
 (253) 872-2318  
[www.wa.gov/agr/weedboard/](http://www.wa.gov/agr/weedboard/)



**WANTED  
 DEAD  
 NOT ALIVE!**



Garlic Mustard



Leafy Spurge



Gorse



Eurasian Water Milfoil



Spartina



Canada Thistle