



This seasonally-offered educational **Weed Bulletin** is a partnership between Whidbey Island Conservation District and WSU Extension Island County Noxious Weed Program.



WEEDS OF SPRING 2017



WHAT ARE NOXIOUS WEEDS?



Noxious weeds affect us all. These invasive non-native plants out-compete native plants, due to limited or no known natural biological controls. Either by intention or by accident, noxious weeds introduced in our area can reduce land productivity, disrupt balance, increase ecosystem degradation, and are often expensive and difficult to remove once established. In an effort to protect the state's resources and economy, Washington's noxious weed law (RCW 17.10) requires landowners, as well as city, county, and state land agencies, to control or eradicate certain weeds that occur on property. To guide this effort, the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board (<http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/>) adopts a state noxious weed list each year (WAC 16-750) that categorizes weeds as Class A, B, or C based on their distribution in the state, abundance, and level of threat. Each county weed board then passes a weed list that specifies which weeds landowners are required to control.



Check out 2017 Weed list <http://extension.wsu.edu/island/nrs/noxious/noxious-weed-pictorial-index-2015/>

To learn more:

<http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/tansy-ragwort>

Tansy Ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*

Class B Weed

- Biennial annual or perennial
- Roadsides, pastures, fields, cleared forested areas
- Toxic to livestock & agriculture
- Remove by pulling & storing in plastic bags (wear gloves!)

To learn more, click "Knotweeds" below.

Knotweeds

Polygonum
spp.

Class B Weeds

- Spreading perennial with large leaves, hollow stems & creeping rhizomes
- Found in waste places, stream banks, roadsides
- Creates dense colonies that exclude natives
- Hand pulling if new; mowing + herbicide if developed



Giant Knotweed
Polygonum sachalinense



Japanese Knotweed
Polygonum cuspidatum



Bohemian Knotweed
Polygonum bohemicum



Himalayan Knotweed
Polygonum poystachyum

MEET ISLAND COUNTY'S NEW NOXIOUS WEED COORDINATOR



Seth Luginbill comes with a background in botany and natural resource management. He has spent most of his professional career working in restoration of native glacial outwash prairie and Garry oak ecosystems both here in Washington, as well as in British Columbia. Seth loves talking plants from ornamental to native and greatly looks forward to serving Island County in its efforts to control noxious weeds.

QUESTIONS?

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For current & past Weed Bulletins, visit:

<http://www.whidbeycd.org/weed-bulletins.html>

To learn more:

<http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/garlic-mustard>

Garlic Mustard

Alliaria petiolate
Class A Weed

- Biennial short-lived perennial
- Smells like garlic
- Forested understory areas
- Shade tolerant & can out-compete native vegetation
- Remove by pulling & storing in plastic bags

