

Beginning January 2018, this seasonally-offered educational Weed Bulletin is now a partnership between Whidbey Island Conservation District and Island County's Department of Natural Resources.



# WEEDS OF SUMMER

## 2018



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 in an effort to maintain the ecology and economy of Washington's landscapes.

**View Island County's Noxious Weed List at <http://bit.ly/2l18V19>**

For past Weed Bulletins, visit: [whidbeycd.org/publications/](http://whidbeycd.org/publications/)



### QUESTIONS?

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[www.facebook.com/islandcountynoxiousweedprogram/](http://www.facebook.com/islandcountynoxiousweedprogram/)

Visit Island County Noxious Weed Control Board for more information  
[www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/DNR/Noxious-Weed/Pages/Home.aspx](http://www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/DNR/Noxious-Weed/Pages/Home.aspx)

**Brazilian Elodea**  
*Egeria densa*  
[www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/brazilian-elodea](http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/brazilian-elodea)

Aquatic ornamental that can grow rapidly when dumped in freshwater bodies.

- Habitat:** Wet areas, predominantly freshwater.
- Profile:** Freshwater bright green perennial. Grows underwater in dense mats, sometimes free-floating. Male & female flowers - white, 3 petals on threadlike stems. Reproduces by roots & plant fragments.
- Why?:** Alters aquatic ecosystems by trapping sediment and degrading water quality. Shades out other native aquatic plants & inhibits water flow.
- Control:** Small infestations can be controlled with opaque fabric. Triploid grass carp have been used in certain situations. Consult Noxious Weed Coordinator.

**Class B**

**Garden Loosestrife**  
*Lysimachia vulgaris*  
[www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/garden-loosestrife](http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/garden-loosestrife)

Semi-Aquatic plant. Can also persist in slightly dryer sites.

- Habitat:** Wetlands and freshwater bodies of water.
- Profile:** Rhizomatous perennial, to 3 ft. tall in dense stands. Yellow flower clusters in summer. Leaves opposite & whorled or lance-shaped. Stems & leaves are soft and hairy. Reproduces by seeds & rhizomes.
- Why?:** Dense stands of growth shade out other native aquatic plants.
- Control:** Small populations may be covered with black plastic to suppress. Small infestations can be dug out but may be impractical due to aquatic habitat.

**Class B**

**Weed Wrench Rentals**

Weed wrenches are wonderful tools for invasive woody shrub and small tree removal. Island County Noxious Weed Control Program has wrenches available to borrow for free. Sign one out from the WSU Extension office at 406 N. Main St, Coupeville. Leave your name, phone number, and duration of rental, and you are good to go!

**Perennial Pepperweed**  
*Lepidium latifolium*  
[www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/perennial-pepperweed](http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/perennial-pepperweed)

New to Island County. Found on shorelines, salt Marshes, and wet habitats.

- Habitat:** Wet areas, shorelines.
- Profile:** Perennial, to 3-5 ft. tall. Flowers white, form dense rounded clusters at branch tips. Leaves alternate, waxy, with smooth or toothed margins. Reproduces by seed, rhizomes, and root fragments.
- Why?:** Prolific, dense monoculture stands destroy nesting habitat for shorebirds.
- Control:** Hand-pull or dig, removing as much of root as possible. Plant dense-growing competitive native plants to limit growth. Glyphosate or imazapyr chemicals are most effective when applied to the leaves at bud/flowering stage. First mow at bud stage, then treat re-growth when it reaches bud stage again.

**Class B**

**Noxious weeds thrive in a variety of habitats.** Refer to the icons below to become familiar with the habitats of local noxious weeds, which can help you recognize and monitor weeds on your property.

Forest Understory

Open Spaces

Shoreline

Wet Areas

Garden Escapee