

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 WINTER

## 2017/18



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.

Visit Island County Noxious Weed Control Board for more information [extension.wsu.edu/island/nrs/noxious/](http://extension.wsu.edu/island/nrs/noxious/)

### QUESTIONS?



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



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

View Island County's Noxious Weed List at [bit.ly/2o6XSY0](http://bit.ly/2o6XSY0)

### Shiny Geranium

*Geranium lucidum*  
[nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/shiny-geranium](http://nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/shiny-geranium)

**Class B**

- Annual or biennial herbaceous groundcover, forms dense mats by aggressively spreading
- Leaves are basal, lobed and shiny, attached to red stems, with 5-petaled small, pink flowers
- Reproduces by seed & found in shaded woodlands and forest openings
- Control Methods: Heavy mulching of 3 inches or deeper; broadleaf herbicide like Glyphosate

### Absinth Wormwood

*Artemisia absinthium*  
[nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/absinth-wormwood](http://nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/absinth-wormwood)

**Class C**

- Herbaceous perennial shrub, growing 3-5 ft., with strong sage odor that outcompetes native forbs and grasses & can easily grow in disturbed sites
- Entire plant covered in fine, silky hairs with a gray-green appearance & yellow flowers in spring
- Reproduces by seed and short roots & found on dry soils in pastures, cropland, farmsteads, shelterbelts, roadsides, fence rows, and waste areas
- Control Methods: Small infestations can be hand pulled; Tilling or grazing by cows, goats, and sheep has shown to work to control infestations; Planting other desirable native plants in area once noxious weed is pulled is recommended to reduce or eliminate new growth

### New Species for State Noxious Weed List

Each year, Washington State's **Noxious Weed Control Board** updates its official list of noxious weeds. In 2018, several new species have been added to Washington State's noxious weed list that we encourage landowners to familiarize themselves with.

- **Class A: Required to Remove (Regulated)**
  - Small Flowered Jewelweed (*Impatiens parviflora*)  
[nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/small-flowered-jewelweed](http://nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/small-flowered-jewelweed)
- **Class B: Required to Control (Regulated)**
  - European Coltsfoot (*Tussilago farfara*)  
[nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/european-coltsfoot](http://nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/european-coltsfoot)
  - Malta Starthistle (*Centaurea melitensis*)  
[nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/malta-starthistle](http://nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/malta-starthistle)
- **Class C: Asked to Control (Non-Regulated)**
  - Spotted jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*)  
[nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/spotted-jewelweed](http://nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/spotted-jewelweed)
  - Eurasian watermilfoil hybrid (*Myriophyllum spicatum* x *M. sibiricum*)  
[nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/eurasian-watermilfoil-hybrid](http://nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/eurasian-watermilfoil-hybrid)

### Spurge Laurel

*Daphne laureola*  
[nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/spurge-laurel](http://nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/spurge-laurel)

**Class B**

- Woody, Evergreen shrub, growing 1-5 ft., with small yellow-green flowers in early spring leading to black berries and which forms monotypic stands that compete with native plants
- Reproduces by seed, but also by tiny root sprouts & will grow in sun or shade, found mostly in forest understorey areas or along "edge habitats" by forested areas
- Control Methods: Due to all parts of plant being highly toxic to humans, be sure to wear gloves and proper clothing when removing plants. Handpulling or weed wrenches work to remove entire plant, including roots. "Cut & paste method" of cutting plant down to stem and painting herbicide on exposed stem effective.