

This seasonally-offered educational Weed Bulletin is a partnership between Whidbey Island Conservation District and Island County's Department of Natural Resources.



# WEEDS OF WINTER

## 2019/20



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. The 2019 Island County Noxious Weed List is available at: <https://bit.ly/2CgbedB>.

You can also pick up a copy at the WSU Extension Island County office or the Whidbey Island Conservation District office.

For past Weed Bulletins, visit: [www.whidbeycd.org/weed-bulletin.html](http://www.whidbeycd.org/weed-bulletin.html)



### 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)

## Aquatic and Shoreline species - Call Seth @ 360-678-7992



### Dense Flowered Cordgrass

*Spartina densiflora*  
[www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/dense-flowered-cordgrass](http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/dense-flowered-cordgrass)

**Repeated mowing can contain growth but not an effective long-term strategy.**

- Habitat:** Shorelines, lagoons, saltwater estuaries.
- Profile:** Perennial grass, salt tolerant, growing in dense, erect clumps. Leaves narrow, long, and grayish. Stems hollow, ranging from 10" to 60" tall. Flowers spiked and compact. Only spreads through seed.
- Why?:** One of the most aggressive invaders, displaces native species and degrades nursery habitat for many native fish species including salmon.
- Control:** Completely dig out and remove entire plant and roots. Prolonged flooding can be effective. Herbicide control only to be done by licensed chemical applicators.

**Class A**



### Eurasian Watermilfoil

*Myriophyllum spicatum*  
[www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/eurasian-watermilfoil](http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/eurasian-watermilfoil)

**Spreads through stem fragments.**

- Habitat:** Freshwater habitat and wetlands.
- Profile:** Perennial, submersed ornamental escapee, in dense mats. Leaves finely dissected with whorls of four, featherlike in appearance. Flowers small with pinkish/red spikes. Flowering stems growing above water surface, male and female flowers on same plant.
- Why?:** Outcompetes desirable native aquatics and damages infrastructure.
- Control:** Dig out and remove all parts of plant. A bottom barrier of woven material can prevent seed and root establishment. Low water levels during freezing or extended dry periods can be effective. Herbicide applied by licensed chemical applicator.

**Class B**

### The Right Person for Chemical Treatments

Often when using chemical treatments it is either recommended or required that a certified licensed chemical applicator conduct applications for weed control. You can visit the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) website: <https://agr.wa.gov/services/licenses-permits-and-certificates/pesticide-license-and-recertification/pesticide-and-spi-licensing/license-lists> to find who is endorsed for aquatic applications as well as other specialty endorsements for herbicide applications. Properly applying herbicide not only keeps you and your land safer from unnecessary exposure, but often means that the control of invasive weed species is more effective.



### South American Spongeplant

*Limnobium laevigatum*  
[www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/south-american-spongeplant](http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/south-american-spongeplant)

**Spreads vegetatively and through seeds.**

- Habitat:** Ponds, lakes, wetlands, and wet shorelines.
- Profile:** Aquatic perennial, forming dense floating mats. Spongy, honeycomb-like tissue on underside of leaves. Compact stems have runners/stolons branching off. Small white-green flowers. Can grow in full sun or shade. Tolerates mild salinity.
- Why?:** Crowds out native species. Can damage or clog pumps and dams. Limits recreational activities.
- Control:** Small areas can be removed by hand, removing all plant material. Chemical control only by a licensed chemical applicator with an aquatic endorsement. Be sure to clean watercraft and other equipment that might come in contact with infested waters.

**Class A**

**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.

