Noxious Weed Control Program

KING COUNTY'S

2019 King County Noxious Weed List

NOXIOUS WEEDS are a danger to our environment and the economy. These introduced species cost our region millions of dollars in lost agricultural production, environmental degradation and added maintenance costs. Once invasive plants spread to natural areas, they harm native plants and wildlife and can be impossible to eradicate.

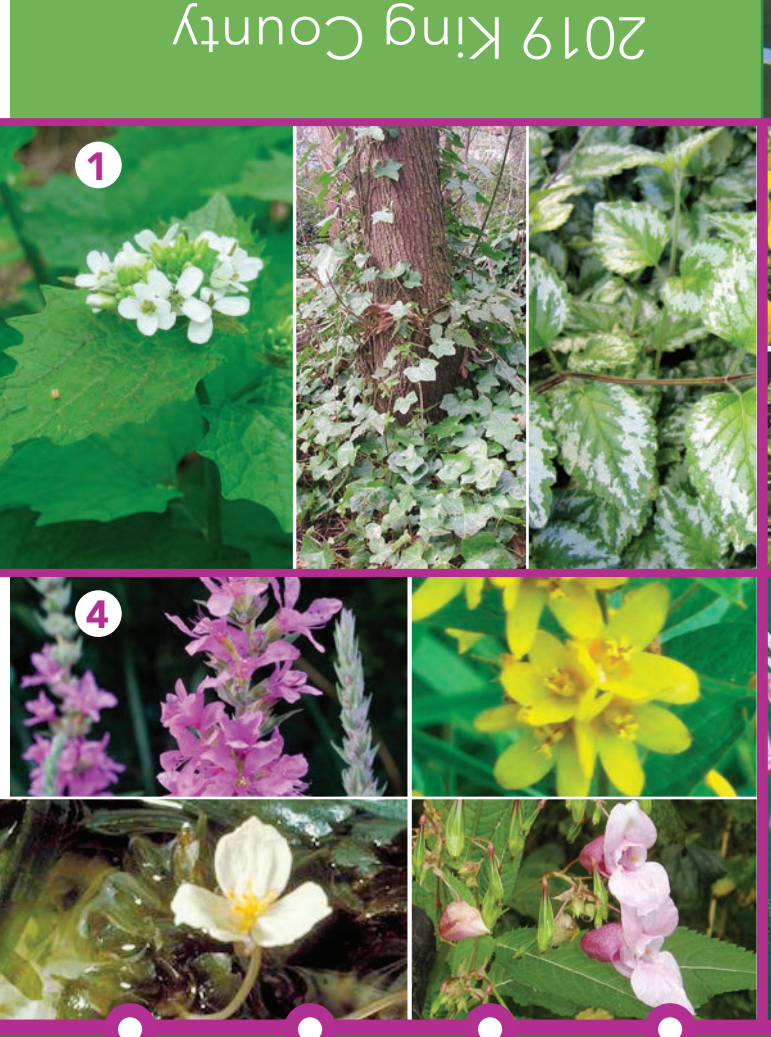
1. **Forest invaders** garlic mustard, English ivy and yellow archangel can damage trees, overwhelm native species and harm wildlife habitat.
2. **Invasive plants** Scotch broom, knotweed, butterfly bush and Himalayan blackberry impede efforts to restore rivers and reforest timberland.
3. **Toxic weeds** giant hogweed, tansy ragwort and poison-hemlock pose serious health risks to people and animals.
4. **Wetland and aquatic invaders** purple and garden loosestrife, Brazilian elodea and policeman's helmet clog waterways, crowd out native plants and harm fish and wildlife habitat.
5. **Grassland invaders** spotted knapweed, orange hawkweed and milk thistle crowd out wildflowers and healthy forage species and degrade hay fields and rangeland.

WASHINGTON'S NOXIOUS WEED LAW (RCW 17.10) protects natural and economic resources from the damage caused by noxious weeds. Weeds do not respect property boundaries and they affect everyone. Property owners and public land managers are required to control designated noxious weeds to prevent them from spreading. The highest priority is new invaders. There is still a chance to stop new weeds from establishing if everyone does their part. State weed law information can be found at **nwcb.wa.gov**.

KING COUNTY'S NOXIOUS WEED LIST consists of all species set by the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board (WAC 16-750) as Class A weeds, all Class B weeds state-designated for control in King County, and Class B and C species selected from the state list by the King County Noxious Weed Control Board. We also list additional, non-regulated invasive species for educational purposes. The list is reviewed annually and public input is encouraged.

Learn more and report weeds online at **kingcounty.gov/weeds**

See inside for the 2019 KING COUNTY WEED LIST



Poison-hemlock, Class B noxious weed

Photo credit: Karen Peterson

STOP THE INVADERS!

King County
Department of
Natural Resources and Parks
Water and Land Resources Division

Noxious Weed Control Program

King County Noxious Weed Control Program
201 S. Jackson St., Suite 600, Seattle WA 98104

206-477-WEED (206-477-9333)
noxious.weeds@kingcounty.gov
Visit our website and report weeds at
kingcounty.gov/weeds

King County
Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Water and Land Resources Division

Noxious Weed Control Program

This information can be made available in alternate formats.

Call 206-477-9333 or TTY: 711

THE NOXIOUS WEED PROGRAM IS HERE TO HELP:

- Technical assistance with ID and control
- Free workshops and info booths at events
- Brochures, fact sheets and weed guides
- Control assistance for high priority weeds
- Disposal vouchers for regulated weeds
- Weed pullers and knotweed injectors for loan

OUR MISSION:

To provide benefits to the environment, recreation, public health and economic resources of King County by preventing and minimizing harmful impacts of noxious weeds.

You can help fight noxious weeds by planting only non-invasive plants, disposing of noxious weeds responsibly, reporting infestations of regulated noxious weeds that are not being controlled, and controlling weeds on your own property. Thank you for helping!

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DEFINITIONS (RCW 17.10, WAC 16-750)

Noxious Weed - a non-native plant that when established is highly destructive, competitive, or difficult to control

Control - in a given year, prevent all seed production and dispersal of all propagative parts capable of forming new plants.

Eradicate - completely eliminate a noxious weed within an area of infestation.

If you are unsure how to identify or control a regulated noxious weed or have a hardship that prevents you from doing so, the program can provide assistance. If a property owner refuses to control a regulated noxious weed, state law authorizes the county weed board to pursue control through a notice of violation and, if necessary, bill the landowner for the control cost. We work to avoid this and we do all we can to help landowners find a solution that works for them.

spread to neighboring lands.

The Program protects the natural and economic resources of county residents. We ensure that noxious weeds that are regulated in King County are controlled. Our weed specialists teach property owners to identify and control noxious weeds so they do not spread to other properties. We make sure public agencies control regulated noxious weeds on roads and public lands to reduce impacts to public resources and prevent

2019 KING COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED LIST

The King County Noxious Weed Control Board has adopted this Noxious Weed List in accordance with RCW 17.10 and WAC 16-750.

CONTROL REQUIRED

REGULATED CLASS A WEEDS:

These weeds are the highest priority in the state due to their significant potential impact and limited distribution. Property owners throughout Washington are required to eradicate Class A weeds.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
common crupina [6]	*Crupina vulgaris*
● cordgrass, common [6]	*Spartina anglica*
cordgrass, dense flower [6]	*Spartina densiflora*
cordgrass, saltmeadow [6]	*Spartina patens*
cordgrass, smooth [6]	*Spartina alterniflora*
● dyers woad [6]	*Isatis tinctoria*
● eggleaf spurge [1, 6]	*Euphorbia oblongata*
● false brome [6]	*Brachypodium sylvaticum*
● floating primrose-willow [6]	*Ludwigia peploides*
flowering-rush [6]	*Butomus umbellatus*
● French broom [1, 6]	*Genista monspessulana*
● garlic mustard [6]	*Alliaria petiolata*
● giant hogweed [1, 6]	*Heracleum mantegazzianum*
● goatsrue [1, 6]	*Galega officinalis*
○ hydrilla [6]	*Hydrilla verticillata*
Johnsongrass [1, 6]	*Sorghum halepense*
● knapweed, bighead [6]	*Centaurea macrocephala*
knapweed, Vochin [6]	*Centaurea nigrescens*
kudzu [6]	*Pueraria montana var. lobata*
meadow clary [6]	*Salvia pratensis*
oriental clematis [6]	*Clematis orientalis*
purple starthistle [1, 6]	*Centaurea calcitrapa*
● reed sweetgrass [6]	*Glyceria maxima*
● ricefield bulrush [6]	*Schoenoplectus mucronatus*
○ sage, clary [6]	*Salvia sclarea*
sage, Mediterranean [6]	*Salvia aethiopis*
silverleaf nightshade [1, 6]	*Solanum elaeagnifolium*
● small-flowered jewelweed	*Impatiens parviflora*
● Spanish broom [1, 6]	*Spartium junceum*
Syrian beancaper [6]	*Zygophyllum fabago*
Texas blueweed [6]	*Helianthus ciliaris*
thistle, Italian [6]	*Carduus pycnocephalus*
● thistle, milk [1, 6]	*Silybum marianum*
thistle, slenderflower [6]	*Carduus tenuiflorus*
variable-leaf milfoil [6]	*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*
wild four o'clock [6]	*Mirabilis nyctaginea*

REGULATED CLASS B WEEDS:

Class B weeds are regulated in counties where they are limited in distribution or where they are a local priority. The following Class B weeds have been designated for control in King County by the State Weed Board or selected by the King County Weed Board. Property owners in King County are required to control these species.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
● blueweed; viper's bugloss [1, 6]	*Echium vulgare*
● Brazilian elodea [3, 6]	*Egeria densa*
○ bugloss, annual	*Anchusa arvensis*
● bugloss, common [6]	*Anchusa officinalis*
camelthorn	*Alhagi maurorum*
● common reed (non-native genotypes)	*Phragmites australis*
● Dalmatian toadflax [6]	*Linaria dalmatica ssp. dalmatica*
● European coltsfoot	*Tussilago farfara*
fanwort [6]	*Cabomba caroliniana*
● gorse [6]	*Ulex europaeus*
grass-leaved arrowhead [6]	*Sagittaria graminea*
● hairy willowherb [6]	*Epilobium hirsutum*
● hawkweeds; All non-native species and hybrids of the meadow subgenus [5, 6]	*Hieracium, subgenus Pilosella*
● hawkweed, European [5, 6]	*Hieracium sabaudum*
● hawkweed, orange [6]	*Hieracium aurantiacum*
hawkweed oxtongue	*Picris hieracioides*
hoary alyssum	*Berteroa incana*
● houndstongue [1]	*Cynoglossum officinale*
indigobush [6]	*Amorpha fruticosa*
knapweed, black [6]	*Centaurea nigra*
○ knapweed, brown [6]	*Centaurea jacea*
● knapweed, diffuse [6]	*Centaurea diffusa*
● knapweed, meadow [6]	*Centaurea x moncktonii*
knapweed, Russian [1]	*Rhaponticum repens*
● knapweed, spotted [6]	*Centaurea stoebe*
● kochia [6]	*Bassia scoparia*
● loosestrife, garden [6]	*Lysimachia vulgaris*
● loosestrife, purple [6]	*Lythrum salicaria*
● parrotfeather [6]	*Myriophyllum aquaticum*
● perennial pepperweed [6]	*Lepidium latifolium*
● poison-hemlock [7]	*Conium maculatum*
● policeman's helmet [6]	*Impatiens glandulifera*
● rush skeletonweed	*Chondrilla juncea*
● saltcedar [6]	*Tamarix ramosissima*
● shiny geranium [6]	*Geranium lucidum*
● spurge, leafy [1, 6]	*Euphorbia virgata*
starthistle, Malta	*Centaurea melitensis*
● starthistle, yellow [1]	*Centaurea solstitialis*
● sulfur cinquefoil	*Potentilla recta*
● tansy ragwort [1, 6]	*Jacobaea vulgaris*
● thistle, musk [6]	*Carduus nutans*
thistle, plumeless [6]	*Carduus acanthoides*
● thistle, Scotch [6]	*Onopordum acanthium*
● velvetleaf [6]	*Abutilon theophrasti*
○ water primrose [6]	*Ludwigia hexapetala*
white bryony [1]	*Bryonia alba*
● wild chervil [1, 6]	*Anthriscus sylvestris*
● yellow floatingheart [6]	*Nymphoides peltata*
● yellow nutsedge	*Cyperus esculentus*

REGULATED CLASS C WEEDS:

Class C weeds are generally widespread, but may be selected on a local level. The following Class C weeds have been selected by the King County Weed Board based on potential threats and feasibility of control. Property owners in King County are required to control these species.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
● absinth wormwood [1]	*Artemesia absinthium*
● buffalobur [6]	*Solanum rostratum*

LEGEND

- ● Known to occur in King County
- ○ Historically present, but thought to be eradicated

Control noxious weeds to protect people, livestock, crops and the environment.

CONTROL RECOMMENDED

NON-REGULATED NOXIOUS WEEDS:

The following Class B and C weeds from the state noxious weed list also impact the county, but are already widespread. Property owners in King County are not required to control these species, except where noted, but control is recommended where feasible.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	CLASS
● blackberry, evergreen	*Rubus laciniatus*	C
● blackberry, Himalayan	*Rubus armeniacus*	C
● butterfly bush [6]	*Buddleja davidii*	B
common barberry	*Berberis vulgaris*	C
● common catsear	*Hypochaeris radicata*	C
● common fennel	*Foeniculum vulgare (except var. azoricum)*	B
● common groundsel [1]	*Senecio vulgaris*	C
● common St. Johnswort	*Hypericum perforatum*	C
● common tansy [1]	*Tanacetum vulgare*	C
● common teasel	*Dipsacus fullonum*	C
● curlyleaf pondweed	*Potamogeton crispus*	C
● field bindweed	*Convolvulus arvensis*	C
● fragrant waterlily	*Nymphaea odorata*	C
● hairy whitetop [1]	*Lepidium appelianum*	C
● hawkweeds; All non-native species and hybrids of the wall subgenus [5, 6]	*Hieracium, subgenus Hieracium*	B
● hawthorn, English	*Crataegus monogyna*	C
● herb-Robert	*Geranium robertianum*	B
● hoary cress [1]	*Lepidium draba*	C
● Italian arum	*Arum italicum*	C
● ivy, English (four cultivars only: 'Baltica', 'Pittsburgh','Star', and 'Hibernica') [1]	*Hedera helix 'Baltica'* *Hedera helix 'Pittsburgh'* *Hedera helix 'Star'* *Hedera hibernica 'Hibernica'*	C
jubata grass	*Cortaderia jubata*	C
● knotweed, Bohemian [4, 6]	*Polygonum x bohemicum*	B
● knotweed, giant [4, 6]	*Polygonum sachalinese*	B
● knotweed, Himalayan [4, 6]	*Persicaria wallichii*	B
● knotweed, Japanese [4, 6]	*Polygonum cuspidatum*	B
● lesser celandine [6]	*Ficaria verna*	B
● non-native cattails and hybrids including narrow-leaf and southern cattail (does not include native common cattail)	*Typha angustifolia, T. x glauca, T. domingensis*	C
● old man's beard [1]	*Clematis vitalba*	C
● oxeye daisy [6]	*Leucanthemum vulgare*	C
● Pampas grass	*Cortaderia selloana*	C
● perennial sowthistle	*Sonchus arvensis*	C
● Ravenna grass	*Saccharum ravennae*	B
● reed canarygrass	*Phalaris arundinacea*	B
● Scotch broom [1, 2, 6]	*Cytisus scoparius*	B
● spotted jewelweed	*Impatiens capensis*	C
● spurge laurel [1]	*Daphne laureola*	B
● thistle, bull	*Cirsium vulgare*	C
● thistle, Canada	*Cirsium arvense*	C
● tree-of-heaven [1]	*Ailanthus altissima*	C
● ventenata	*Ventenata dubia*	C
● watermilfoil, Eurasian [6]	*Myriophyllum spicatum*	B
● watermilfoil hybrid [6], (Eurasian x northern)	*Myriophyllum spicatum x M. sibiricum*	C
● wild carrot [6]	*Daucus carota*	C
● yellow archangel [6]	*Lamiastrum galeobdolon*	B
● yellowflag iris [1]	*Iris pseudacorus*	C
● yellow toadflax	*Linaria vulgaris*	C

WEEDS OF CONCERN:

The following plant species are not listed as noxious weeds under state law and property owners are not required to control them. However, the King County Weed Board recognizes these non-native plants as invasive, recommends control or containment of existing populations, and discourages new plantings. King County's Critical Areas Ordinance cites this list, formerly known as the Obnoxious Weed List, as invasive vegetation that threatens native ecosystems by displacing beneficial vegetation and degrading wildlife and native plant habitat. The Noxious Weed Control Program provides education and outreach services for these weeds (as authorized by RCW 17.10.090).

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
● bird cherry	*Prunus avium*
● bishop's weed	*Aegopodium podagraria*
● bittersweet nightshade [1]	*Solanum dulcamara*
● black locust	*Robinia pseudoacacia*
● buttercup, creeping [1]	*Ranunculus repens*
● buttercup, tall [1]	*Ranunculus acris*
● English holly [1]	*Ilex aquifolium*
● English laurel [1]	*Prunus laurocerasus*
● European mountain ash	*Sorbus aucuparia*
● hedge bindweed, morning glory	*Calystegia sepium*
● multiflora rose	*Rosa multiflora*
● rough chervil [1]	*Chaerophyllum temulum*
● silver lace vine	*Fallopia baldschuanica* syn. *Polygonum aubertii*

FOOTNOTES:

1 Reported to be toxic to livestock and/or humans. Sources: USDA Poisonous Plant Research Laboratory, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, WA State Weed Board. This list is for general information only and may not be all-inclusive. Contact a medical professional for information about symptoms and treatment.

2 Control of Scotch broom is required on the right-of-way of King County's section of SR-2 and on the I-90 right-of-way between mile marker 34 and the King/Kittitas County line.

3 Brazilian elodea is designated for control throughout King County except in Lake Washington, Lake Sammamish, Lake Union, Lake Fenwick, Lake Doloff and the Sammamish River.

4 Control of Bohemian, Japanese, giant and Himalayan knotweed (*Polygonum xbohemicum, P. cuspidatum, P. sachalinense, P. polystachyum*) is required on the Green River and its tributaries above the Auburn City Limits and on the Cedar River and its tributaries above the Renton City Limits (tributaries included are those defined as Type S, F or N aquatic areas in KCC 21A.24.355). Control of these invasive knotweed species is required up to the ordinary high water mark (or to the top of the bank if the ordinary high water mark cannot be identified) and in the adjacent buffer area as specified in KCC 21A.24.358. This requirement to control knotweed is contingent upon the noxious weed program or program partners providing knotweed control services in the selected area for affected private land landowners who request assistance.

5 Non-native yellow-flowered hawkweeds (Hieracium species) are consolidated into two listings by subgenus: meadow (*Pilosella*) and wall (*Hieracium*). Control of species in the meadow group is required in King County. Control of species in the wall group is not required in King County with the exception of European hawkweed (*Hieracium sabaudum*).

6 **Quarantine species**. It is prohibited to transport, buy, sell, offer for sale, or distribute plants, plant parts or seeds of this species within the state of Washington. Noxious Weed Seed and Plant Quarantine, WAC 16-752-600. Contact Washington State Department of Agriculture for complete list.

7 Control of poison-hemlock is required on public lands and public right-of-way.

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