

OBNOXIOUS WEEDS In addition to the state-listed noxious weeds, there are obnoxious weeds that are invasive and widespread in King County but have not been placed on the state-regulated noxious weed list. Many have escaped from intentional plantings and have spread into natural areas. These plants can damage native ecosystems by displacing beneficial vegetation and degrading wildlife and native plant habitat. The King County Weed Board recognizes these plants as invasive and is collecting information and providing education on control. The Board encourages and recommends control and containment of existing populations and discourages new plantings. This list is not all inclusive and there is no requirement to control these plants in King County.

2004 KING COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED LIST

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Buddleia davidii</i>	butterfly bush
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	English holly ¹
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	English laurel
<i>Rubus discolor</i>	Himalayan blackberry
<i>Rubus laciniatus</i>	evergreen blackberry
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	bitter nightshade ¹



To find out more about identifying and controlling noxious weeds, please call 206-296-0290.
<http://dnr.metrokc.gov/weeds>



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Water and Land Resources Division
Noxious Weed Control Program
201 South Jackson, Suite 600
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This information is available in alternate formats.
Call 206-296-0290 or TTY 711.

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Garlic Mustard



Giant Hogweed



Tansy Ragwort



Purple Loosestrife



King County

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WHAT ARE NOXIOUS WEEDS

Noxious weeds are non-native plants that are highly destructive, competitive and difficult to control or eliminate. These invasive species are introduced intentionally or accidentally through human actions: as ornamental garden plants, in wildflower seed mixes, as agricultural crops, in contaminated hay or seed, or from aquariums and water gardens.

These exotic species can reduce crop yields, destroy native plant and animal habitat, damage recreational opportunities, clog waterways, lower land values, and poison humans and livestock.

Noxious weeds should be controlled wherever they occur and should not be introduced to new sites.

WHAT IS THE NOXIOUS WEED LIST?

To help protect the state's residents, resources and private lands, the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board adopts a state weed list each year (WAC 16-750).^{*} Weeds are separated into categories according to the following criteria:

- **Distribution** – where the weed is located within the state or county
- **Abundance** – density of weed populations within the state or county
- **Level of threat** – how dangerous the plant is to humans, animals, private and public lands, and native habitats

The County Weed List is made up of Class A, Class B and Class C weeds from the State Weed List. The County Board has also included Noxious Weeds of Concern (selected from either Class B or C lists) and Obnoxious Weeds (which are not listed by the state). Weeds in these two groups have environmental or other impacts but control is **not** required in King County due to the widespread distribution of these plants throughout the county.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Prevent weed infestations:

- Use weed-free seed and forage.
- Obey noxious weed laws and quarantines.
- Choose non-invasive species for your gardens and landscapes.
- Check vehicles, clothing, boats, boat trailers and camping equipment for weeds and seeds.
- Never dump aquarium plants into a pond or stream.
- Cover compost, topsoil and mulch piles with a tarp.

Control weed infestations:

- Remove or control weeds safely and appropriately.
- Re-plant with appropriate species to prevent weeds from returning.
- Prevent seed production and the spread of weeds.
- Properly dispose of noxious weeds and weed seeds.
- Follow best management practices for pastures and open spaces.



^{*}Between November and April, any person may request a change to the Washington State noxious weed list for the following year. For more information, call the State Noxious Weed Control Board office at 360-902-2094.

KING COUNTY 2004 NOXIOUS WEED LIST

The King County Noxious Weed Control Board has adopted the following 2004 County Noxious Weed List in accordance with RCW 17.10 and WAC 16-750.

CLASS A WEEDS have a limited distribution in Washington. Because the infestations of these plants are small in number and limited in density, preventing new infestations and eradicating existing infestations is the highest priority. **Eradication of these species is required by law throughout Washington State.**

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>	velvetleaf
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	garlic mustard
<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>	slenderflower thistle
<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	purple starthistle ¹
<i>Centaurea macrocephala</i>	bighead knapweed
<i>Centaurea nigrescens</i>	Vochin knapweed
<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>	common crupina
<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>	eggleaf spurge ¹
<i>Galega officinalis</i>	goatsrue ¹
<i>Helianthus ciliaris</i>	Texas blueweed
<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	giant hogweed ¹
<i>Hieracium floribundum</i>	yellow devil hawkweed
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	hydrilla
<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	dyers woad
<i>Mirabilis nyctaginea</i>	wild four o'clock
<i>Pueraria montana var. lobata</i>	kudzu
<i>Salvia aethiopsis</i>	Mediterranean sage
<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	meadow clary
<i>Salvia sclarea</i>	clary sage
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	milk thistle ¹
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	silverleaf nightshade ¹
<i>Solanum rostratum</i>	buffalobur
<i>Soliva sessilis</i>	lawnweed
<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	johnsongrass ¹
<i>Spartina densiflora</i>	dense flower cordgrass
<i>Spartina patens</i>	salt meadow cordgrass
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish broom ¹
<i>Thymelaea passerina</i>	spurge flax
<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>	Syrian bean-caper

CLASS B WEEDS These weeds are abundant in some parts of the state and less common in others. The following Class B weeds have been designated by state law or selected by the County Weed Board as priority weeds in King County. **Control and containment of these species is required by law.**

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acroptilon repens</i>	Russian knapweed ¹
<i>Alhagi maurorum</i>	camelthorn
<i>Alopecurus myosuroides</i>	blackgrass
<i>Anchusa arvensis</i>	annual bugloss
<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>	common bugloss
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	wild chervil ¹
<i>Berteroa incana</i>	hoary alyssum
<i>Bryonia alba</i>	white bryony ¹
<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	fanwort
<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>	plumeless thistle
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	musk thistle
<i>Cenchrus longispinus</i>	longspine sandbur
<i>Centaurea biebersteinii</i>	spotted knapweed
<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>	diffuse knapweed
<i>Centaurea jacea</i>	brown knapweed
<i>Centaurea jacea x nigra</i>	meadow knapweed
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	black knapweed
<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	yellow starthistle ¹
<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	rush skeletonweed
<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>	yellow nutsedge
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Scotch broom ^{1,2}
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	blueweed, viper's bugloss ¹
<i>Egeria densa</i>	Brazilian elodea ³
<i>Euphorbia esula</i>	leafy spurge ¹
<i>Hieracium atratum</i>	polar hawkweed
<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>	orange hawkweed
<i>Hieracium caespitosum</i>	yellow hawkweed
<i>Hieracium glomeratum</i>	queen-devil hawkweed
<i>Hieracium laevigatum</i>	smooth hawkweed
<i>Hieracium pilosella</i>	mouseear hawkweed
<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	policeman's helmet
<i>Kochia scoparia</i>	kochia
<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	perennial pepperweed
<i>Lepyrodielis holosteoides</i>	lepyrodielis
<i>Linaria dalmatica ssp. dalmatica</i>	Dalmatian toadflax
<i>Ludwigia hexapetala</i>	water primrose
<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>	garden loosestrife ⁴

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	purple loosestrife ⁴
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	parrotfeather
<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	yellow floating heart
<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>	Scotch thistle
<i>Picris hieracioides</i>	oxtongue hawkweed
<i>Potentilla recta</i>	sulfur cinquefoil
<i>Rorippa austriaca</i>	Austrian fieldcress
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	tansy ragwort ¹
<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	perennial sowthistle
<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>	smooth cordgrass
<i>Spartina anglica</i>	common cordgrass
<i>Sphaerophysa salsula</i>	swainsonpea
<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>	saltcedar
<i>Torilis arvensis</i>	hedgепarsley
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	gorse

CLASS C WEEDS are common throughout most of Washington. The County Weed Board has selected the following Class C weeds as priority weeds in King County, dependant on local threats and feasibility of control. **Control and containment is required by law.**

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>	absinth wormwood ¹
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	hairy willowherb
<i>Hieracium spp.</i>	non-native and invasive hawkweeds
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	yellow toadflax

NOXIOUS WEEDS OF CONCERN are Class B and C weeds from the State Weed List. These weeds are widespread in King County, so control is not required. However, the County Weed Board strongly encourages and recommends control and containment of existing populations and discourages new plantings of these species.

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada thistle
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	bull thistle
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	old man's beard ¹
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	poison-hemlock ¹
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	field bindweed
<i>Daucus carota</i>	wild carrot ¹
<i>Euphorbia myrsinites</i>	myrtle spurge
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	herb Robert
<i>Hedera helix 'Baltica', 'Pittsburgh' and 'Star', Hedera hibernica 'Hibernica'</i>	English ivy ¹ (four cultivars listed)
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	yellow flag iris ¹
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	oxeye daisy
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian watermilfoil
<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	fragrant water lily
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	reed canarygrass
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	common reed (non-native genotypes)
<i>Polygonum bohemicum</i>	Bohemian knotweed
<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>	Japanese knotweed
<i>Polygonum polystachyum</i>	Himalayan knotweed
<i>Polygonum sachalinense</i>	giant knotweed
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	common groundsel ¹
<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	common tansy ¹

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 veterinarian, doctor or local Poison Control Center for a complete list and information about treatment.

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

⁴ Purple and garden loosestrife are county-selected for control in all areas of King County including those excluded by WAC 16-750

² Control of Scotch broom is required on I-90 between mile marker 34 and the King/Kittitas County line.

⁵ Permit from KC Weed Board required to grow St. Johnswort as a crop in King County



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