Outreach

The EDRR program is committed to community engagement. Over 150 outreach letters were mailed, and nearly 500 people were reached during tabling opportunities. Additionally, the Conservation District co-sponsored a Weed Watchers workshop with Friends of Tryon Creek and Tryon Creek Watershed Council. Community volunteers, residents and grounds managers attended--26 participants in all were trained on identifying and reporting priority weeds. An additional 400 people were engaged through direct correspondence and outreach throughout the year.

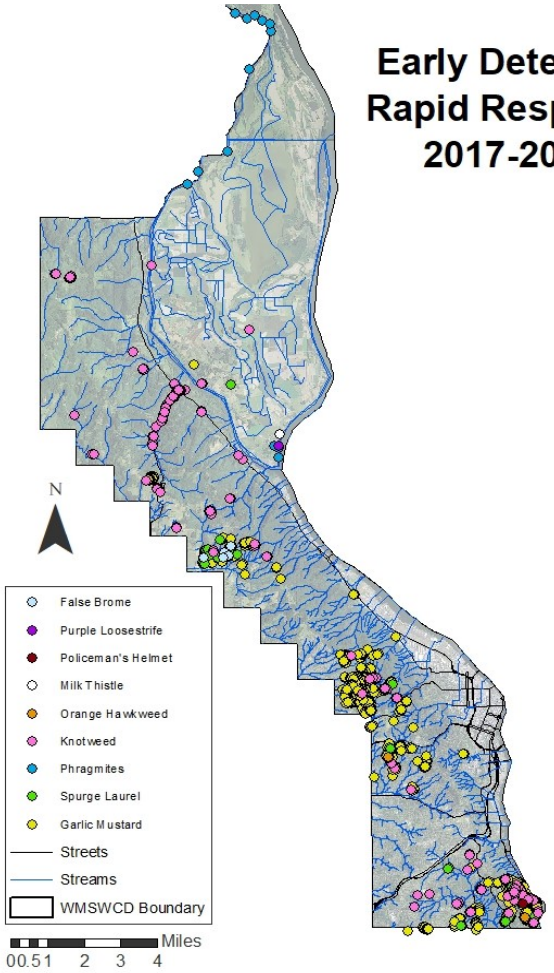
Restoration

Over 30 landowners participating in the EDRR program have completed additional conservation and restoration work with the District. Several more properties are receiving restoration assistance through Backyard Habitat Certification Program or the Tryon Creek Watershed Council.

**All species are state-designated "B" noxious weeds, unless otherwise noted. For more information, visit http://www.oregon.gov/oda/programs/weeds/.*

WMSWCD Seasonal Technician Ari DeMarco at the Audubon Native Plant Sale

Report written by Michelle Delepine & Ari DeMarco; edited and designed by Carolyn Lindberg; map created by Ari Sindel.
August, 2018



For more information about the Early Detection-Rapid Response program at West Multnomah SWCD, please contact Michelle Delepine, Invasive Species Program Coordinator, 503.238.4775, ext. 115, michelle@wmswcd.org.

Cover photo: Garlic mustard rosettes

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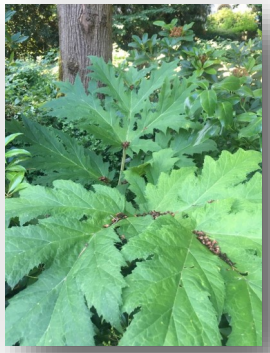
Early Detection-Rapid Response

2017-2018 Final Report

Program Overview

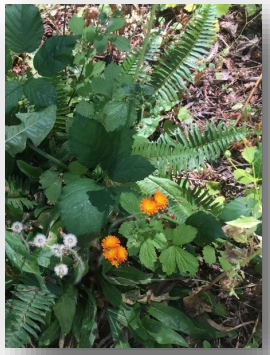
The Early Detection-Rapid Response program seeks to discover, survey and control high priority noxious weed species that are not widely established. The program uses integrated pest management, or IPM, to control target weeds effectively, efficiently and with the least environmental impact. Included in this report are a list of highlights from July 2017 - June 2018.

Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) **(Designated A & T)***



For over six years, Conservation District staff have managed a giant hogweed infestation in the Riverdale neighborhood. At the epicenter is one large patch; two smaller satellite patches were located nearby. No adult plants have been allowed to set seed since they were initially discovered. While no new seedlings were found in 2017, one new plant was detected and removed in 2018.

Orange Hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*) **(Designated A & T)***



Program staff visited six sites across SW Portland and only found orange hawkweed on three of them. Past treatments have reduced the infested footprint considerably and only 100 sq feet of plants were found over an area of 1000 sq feet.

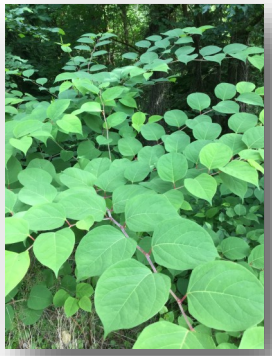
False Brome (*Brachypodium sylvaticum*)

Scattered, isolated patches of false brome continue to be found in the Abbey Creek Watershed west of Forest Park. In all, nine patches totaling 300 sq feet were found and controlled across an infested area of 1100 sq feet combined over five properties.

Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)

The Conservation District continues to work closely with partners locally and regionally to coordinate garlic mustard control strategies for our District. In all, 283 properties were managed. Despite finding one large new infestation west of Cornelius Pass Road, where it has not be found previously, follow-up outreach and surveying did not detect significant spread into neighboring properties. While the total affected area held steady from previous years at just under 14 acres, the plant cover area rose slightly to 5.6 acres (due largely to the above discovery). Elsewhere, many sites that have received 6+ years of treatment had minimal growth, allowing the District to increasingly manage sites through handpulling alone. On another positive note, we found no garlic mustard at 88 previous patches. The Conservation District's garlic mustard program is funded in part by a generous grant from the Oregon State Weed Board.**

Knotweed (*Fallopia x bohemica, F. japonica, F. sachalinensis*)

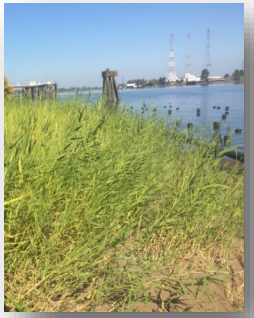


Over the past year, the Conservation District expanded knotweed control work to include 75 sites in priority watersheds. While 184 patches were treated, coverage area was approximately an acre in total. Eight patches had no new plants.

Spurge Laurel (*Daphne laureola*)

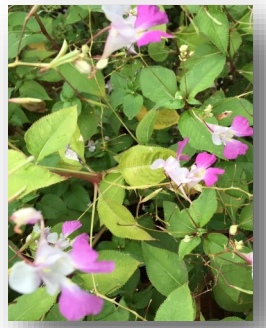
This toxic, perennial shrub was found and removed at 23 sites across the District for a total of 0.55 acres. Notable areas of concern include Abbey Creek, Columbia Creek, Tryon Creek, Dunthorpe, and Forest Park.

Common Reed (*Phragmites australis* ssp. *australis*)



Oregon Department of Agriculture and Portland State University's Center for Lakes and Reservoirs once again assisted the conservation district with surveying and treating common reed along the Multnomah Channel. In all, 14 patches were treated across 0.39 acres. In addition, Multnomah Channel was surveyed all the way to the northern tip of Sauvie Island, and no new significant infestations were detected.

Policeman's Helmet (*Impatiens gladulifera*) **& Balfour's Touch-me-not** (shown) (*Impatiens balfourii*)



Very few policeman's helmet plants were found this past year. The most established site was reduced to a handful of plants largely due to assistance from the landowner. But, we had a resurgence of Balfour's touch-me-not in the headwaters of the East Fork of Tryon Creek. Contract crews were needed to remove a 1500 sq. ft. area above the creek.

Purple Loosestrife *(Lythrum salicaria)*

The Conservation District and Scappoose Bay Watershed Council worked with USDA-APHIS Plant Protection Program to release a root-boring weevil *(Hylobius transversovittatus)* biocontrol agent to help manage purple loosestrife populations. Release sites included Scappoose Bay and southern Sauvie Island.

Notable Absences

Monitoring continues for additional species such as milk thistle *(Silybum marianum)*, water primrose *(Ludwigia hexapetela)*, goatsrue *(Galega officinalis)*, and others on the District EDRR list. While a single milk thistle plant was found and controlled, no occurrences of these other species were observed.