Common Invasive Weeds

Herb Robert
Geranium robertianum

Old man’s beard
Clematis vitalba

Butterfly bush
Buddleia davidii

Lesser celandine
Ranunculus ficaria

Italian arum
Arum italicum

Giant hogweed
Heronium antirrhizum

Garlic mustard
Alliaria petiolata

English ivy
Hedera helix, H. hibernica

English holly
Ilex aquifolium

Himalyan blackberry
Rubus armeniacus

Giant hogweed
Heracleum maximum

Giant hogweed
Heracleum mantegazzianum

Spurge laurel
Daphne laureola

Orange hawkweed
Hieracium aurantiacum

Japanese knotweed
Polygonum cuspidatum

Giant hogweed
Heracleum maximum

Pokeweed
Phytolacca americana

Giant hogweed
Heracleum maximum

About WMSWCD

West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District is a state-designated special district to help landowners plan and implement conservation practices.

Our Mission

To conserve and protect soil and water resources for people, wildlife, and the environment

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INVASIVE PLANTS
Identify and root them out!
Invasive weeds are not native to the ecosystem and adversely affect the economy, environment and human health. The biological difference between invasive plants and garden weeds is that invasive plants will grow easily and spread quickly with no help from us. They are more devastating to natural environments than normal weeds, take more money to control and manage, and may be toxic to people and animals.

Why Care?
Invasive weeds completely change how natural ecosystems function in these ways:
- Crowd out native plants and provide little to no benefit to wildlife
- Reduce biodiversity
- Harm water quality and impede water flow
- Increase soil erosion
- Decrease land value
- Reduce crop yield and quality

What You Can Do
- Learn about invasive weeds by visiting our website for factsheets, identification guides, news and a schedule for the latest Multnomah Weed Watcher workshops.
- Control invasive plants on your property and encourage your neighbors to do so.
- Avoid disturbing soils and plant healthy groundcovers to prevent problem weeds from moving in.
- Start early! Remove weeds while they are still small and haven’t yet produced seeds.
- Don’t spread weeds! If you are working in or walking through an area infested with weeds clean your shoes, clothing, pets, tires and equipment before leaving.
- Don’t plant invasive weeds! Native plants are good for soil quality and stability and provide wildlife with important habitat and forage.
- Use the best known removal method for the weeds you are dealing with – contact us or visit our website for species-specific control information.

Controlling Invasive Weeds
Effective weed control calls for a specific plan for each species’ life cycle. Prevention is always the best way to get rid of invasive weeds. But if they’ve spread, use an “integrated pest management” approach by examining the various control methods available (mechanical, chemical, cultural, and biological) for each species.

In general:
- Start working in the least infested areas and move toward the worst.
- Try to disturb the soil as little as possible because that’s how seeds/roots spread.
- Put all parts of the plant in a trash bag, not your compost or yard debris, because the seeds live for a long time.

Old Man’s Beard & English/Irish Ivy:
When the soil is moist, dig 2-inches deep and pull the vines and roots by hand. Cut vines around tree trunks at chest-height and pull the ground ivy away from the base of the tree. Remaining vines will die on the tree.

Garlic Mustard:
When flowering, pull the plant and roots by the base before seed pods form in the spring. Put it in a trash bag, not in your compost or yard debris.

Contact Us
Call us at 503.238.4775 if you find any of the “Most Wanted” plants on your property. Visit our website at www.wmswcd.org for additional information, fact sheets and helpful links.
Drop in our office to get identification and control information from OSU Master Gardeners and/or WMSWCD Staff, 2701 NW Vaughn Street, Suite 450, Portland.

Helpful Links
- Local Invasive Species Information & Resources:
  - 4-County Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) www.4countycwma.org
  - City of Portland www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/45696
  - King County, Washington www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsandplants/noxious-weeds
- Descriptions and photos of Oregon State listed invasive weeds:
  - Oregon Department of Agriculture www.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/WEEDS
- Photos of and control information for invasive weeds: www.invasive.org
- Reporting invasive weeds: www.oregoninvasiveshotline.org