# Water Smart

# INVASIVE SPECIES

## **AGGRESSIVE PLANTS**

As we work to save water by thoughtfully selecting plants for our landscapes, it is important to remember that the vigorous growth characteristics of some plants can create problems. Aggressive plants tend to dominate areas and spread beyond their intended coverage. These plants were introduced because they had value: ornamental, erosion control, wind breaks and other landscape functions. However, we have learned that some plants can become aggressive in the landscape and should be viewed with caution.

Common Name Tree of Heaven\* Giant Reed\* Rabbit Brush Pampas Grass Russian Olive Weeping Lovegrass Mexican Feathergrass Russian Sage Saltcedar\* Siberian Elm Bigleaf Periwinkle Botanical Name Ailanthus altissima Arundo donax Chrysothamnus nauseosum Cortaderia selloana Elaeagnus angustifolia Eragrostis curvula Nassella tenuissima Perovskia atriplicifolia Tamarix ramosissima Ulmus pumila

Vinca major

\*DO NOT PLANT - HIGHLY INVASIVE



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#### NOXIOUS/INVASIVE WEEDS

The word "noxious" designates a plant that is particularly problematic – so much so, it has a law or regulation restricting its use. The word "invasive" designates a plant that has the characteristics of a noxious weed, but has not been designated as such. Noxious/invasive plants arrived in North America in a variety of ways. Some were brought intentionally to use in erosion control, for their quick rates of

ontrol, for their quick rates of growth, or as forage plants. Others were introduced unintentionally in seed, with animals, or inadvertently aboard ships. Once established, noxious/invasive plants reduce biological

diversity and can have severe impacts on both plant and animal communities.

Common Name Russian knapweed Hoary cress Diffuse Knapweed Malta starthistle Yellow starthistle Spotted knapweed Bull thistle Leafy Spurge Dalmatian toadflax Scotch thistle

## Botanical Name

Acroptilon repens Cardaria draba Centaurea diffusa Centaurea melitensis Centaurea solstitalis Centaurea stoebe ssp. micranthus Cirsium vulgare Euphorbia esula Linaria dalmatica Onopordum acanthium

#### **RESOURCES**

Arizona Invasive Species/Noxious Weed Information www.ecbarranch.com/adeq%206001/Weeds/handbook.htm

Arizona Noxious Weed List http://www.azda.gov/PSD/quarantine5.htm

NRCS Plant Material Centers http://plants.usda.gov

Yavapai County University of Arizona Cooperative Extension 928-445-6590 www.cals.arizona.edu/yavapai/

For more information and helpful community links, visit the Coalition website at

#### www.uvrwpc.org



Upper Verde River Watershed Protection Coglition

