

Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board

Mission Statement

The Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board strives to serve as responsible stewards by supporting the protection of Franklin County's natural resources and the preservation of its rich agricultural heritage from the degrading impacts of noxious weeds.

We help landowners, land users and managers, government entities, and the local community comply with the state of Washington's weed law (RCW 17.10).

We accomplish our mission by:

- ◆ Executing a program emphasizing education in the identification and control of noxious weeds, and encouraging the control of priority species.
- ◆ Providing a trained staff of regulatory inspectors to survey for noxious weeds and work with landowners to formulate reasonable weed control plans compatible with our goals and, when necessary, to require controls.
- ◆ Maintaining a presence in the community by participating in local events, publishing an educational website and printed materials, and conducting regularly scheduled public board meetings.
- ◆ Offering technical assistance to encourage stewardship of natural resources by educating the community on the principles of integrated weed management.

The Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board's complete Philosophy and Policy Statements are posted online at fcweedboard.com/board-of-directors.

About The Noxious Weed List

Noxious weeds are certain plant species the state has determined can cause ecological or economic harm.

The Noxious Weed List is updated annually and prioritized into three classes: A, B and C.

Class A Weeds are non-native species whose distribution in Washington is still limited. Preventing new infestations and eradicating existing ones are of the highest priority. Eradication of all Class A species is required by law statewide (RCW 17.10.140).

Class B and Class B-Designate Weeds are non-native species presently limited to portions of the state. In regions where a Class B species is already abundant, control is decided at the local level. A further classification for certain Class B Weeds that occur in regions where they are not yet widespread is a **Class B-Designate**, which requires the prevention of seed production and dispersal of all propagative parts capable of forming a new plant. Preventing new infestations in such areas is a high priority.

Class C Weeds are species that are already widespread in Washington or are of special interest to the state's agricultural industry. A county weed board may require landowners to control a Class C Weed if it poses a threat to agriculture. Long-term programs of suppression and control are decided at the local level.

***WEED IN TRANSITION:** Kochia is a noxious weed that is intensely managed in portions of Franklin County and selected for increased management efforts in future years countywide.

OUR WEEDS OF FOCUS

Noxious weeds we are actively working on or monitoring to prevent further spread to prevent further spread:

babysbreath	Poison hemlock
camelthorn	puncturevine
cereal rye	Ravenna grass
common reed (nonnative genotypes)	rush skeletonweed
Dalmatian toadflax	saltcedar
hoary cress	spikeweed
houndstongue	thistle, Canada
jointed goatgrass	thistle, Scotch
knapweed, diffuse	tree-of-heaven
knapweed, spotted	velvetleaf
*kochia	white bryony
longspine sandbur	yellow flag iris
loosestrife, purple	yellow nutsedge
poison hemlock	yellow starthistle



Scotch thistle is a Class B noxious weed in Franklin County and a serious problem in rangeland. Dense stands of this spiny plant reduce forage production. Large infestations will require herbicide for control.

Franklin County 2024 Noxious Weed List



Palmer amaranth is a Class A noxious weed in Franklin County and a serious concern for farmers. It is an annual broadleaf plant, in the pigweed family, native only to the southwest U.S.

Palmer amaranth has a fast growth rate of 2-3 inches per day and commonly reaches heights of 6-8 feet. Populations have developed resistance to multiple classes of herbicides with different modes of action, including glyphosate, making it difficult and very expensive to control, particularly on productive farmland.

The first documentation of Palmer amaranth in the state occurred in 2023 in two Eastern WA counties.

Controlling noxious weeds is the landowner's responsibility.

Contact Us

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Learn more online at fcweedboard.com

Weeds found in Franklin County are in gold font.
Class A Weeds—Eradication required by law

common crupina	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>
cordgrass, common	<i>Spartina anglica</i>
cordgrass, dense-flowered	<i>Spartina densiflora</i>
cordgrass, saltmeadow	<i>Spartina patens</i>
cordgrass, smooth	<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>
dyer's woad	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>
eggleaf spurge	<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>
false-brome	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>
floating primrose-willow	<i>Ludwigia peploides</i>
flowering rush	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>
French broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>
garlic mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
giant hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>
goatsrue	<i>Galega officinalis</i>
hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>
Johnsongrass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>
knapweed, bighead	<i>Centaurea macrocephala</i>
knapweed, Vochin	<i>Centaurea nigrescens</i>
kudzu	<i>Pueraria montana</i> var. <i>lobata</i>
meadow clary	<i>Salvia pratensis</i>
oriental clematis	<i>Clematis orientalis</i>
Palmer amaranth	<i>Amaranthus palmeri</i>
purple starthistle	<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>
reed sweetgrass	<i>Glyceria maxima</i>
ricefield bulrush	<i>Schoenoplectus mucronatus</i>
sage, clary	<i>Salvia sclarea</i>
sage, Mediterranean	<i>Salvia aethiops</i>
silverleaf nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>
small-flowered jewelweed	<i>Impatiens parviflora</i>
South American spongeplant	<i>Limnobiium laevigatum</i>
Spanish broom	<i>Spartium junceum</i>
Syrian beancaper	<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>
Texas blueweed	<i>Helianthus ciliaris</i>
thistle, Italian	<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>
thistle, milk	<i>Silybum marianum</i>
thistle, slenderflower	<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>
thistle, Turkish	<i>Carduus cinereus</i>
variable-leaf milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i>
Variable-leaf milfoil hybrids	<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i> x <i>Myriophyllum hippuroides</i>
wild four-o'clock	<i>Mirabilis nyctaginea</i>

FCNWCB Noxious Weed List

Class B Weeds—Control or containment required

***Class B Designate Weeds—Control required**

*blueweed	<i>Echium vulgare</i>
*Brazilian elodea	<i>Egeria densa</i>
*bugloss, annual	<i>Lycopsis arvensis</i>
*bugloss, common	<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>
butterflybush	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>
*camelthorn	<i>Alhagi maurorum</i>
*common fennel (except bulbing fennel)	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i> (except <i>F. vulgare</i> var. <i>azoricum</i>)
common reed (nonnative)	<i>Phragmites australis</i>
*Dalmatian toadflax	<i>Linaria dalmatica</i> ssp. <i>dalmatica</i>
Eurasian watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
*European coltsfoot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>
*fanwort	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>
*gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
*grass-leaved arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria graminea</i>
hairy willowherb	<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>
*hawkweed oxtongue	<i>Picris hieracioides</i>
hanging sedge	<i>Carex pendula</i> , <i>C. pendula</i> subsp. <i>Pendula</i> and <i>C. pendula</i> subsp. <i>agastachys</i>
*hawkweed, orange	<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>
*Hawkweeds: non-natives and hybrids of meadow subgenus	<i>Hieracium</i> , subgenus <i>Pilosella</i>
*Hawkweeds: nonnatives and hybrids of wall subgenus	<i>Hieracium</i> subgenus <i>Hieracium</i>
*herb-Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>
*hoary alyssum	<i>Berteroa incana</i>
*houndstongue	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>
indigobush	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>
*knapweed, black	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
*knapweed, brown	<i>Centaurea jacea</i>
knapweed, diffuse	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>
knapweed, meadow	<i>Centaurea x gerstlaueri</i>
knapweed, Russian	<i>Rhaponticum repens</i>
*knapweed, spotted	<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>
*knotweed, Bohemian	<i>Fallopia x bohémica</i>

*knotweed, giant	<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i>
*knotweed, Himalayan	<i>Persicaria wallichii</i>
*knotweed, Japanese	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>
*kochia (weed in transition)	<i>Bassia scoparia</i>
*lesser celandine	<i>Ficaria verna</i>
*loosestrife, garden	<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>
loosestrife, purple	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
loosestrife, wand	<i>Lythrum virgatum</i>
Malta starthistle	<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>
*parrotfeather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>
perennial pepperweed	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>
poison-hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>
*policeman's helmet	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>
puncturevine	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>
*Ravenna grass	<i>Tripsidium ravennae</i>
*rough chervil	
rush skeletonweed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>
*saltcedar	<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>
*Scotch broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
*shiny geranium	<i>Geranium lucidum</i>
*spurge flax	<i>Thymelaea passerina</i>
*spurge laurel	<i>Daphne laureola</i>
*spurge, leafy	<i>Euphorbia virgata</i>
*spurge, myrtle	<i>Euphorbia myrsinites</i>
*sulfur cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla recta</i>
*tansy ragwort	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>
*thistle, musk	<i>Carduus nutans</i>
*thistle, plumeless	<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>
thistle, Scotch	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>
*velvetleaf	<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>
*water primrose	<i>Ludwigia hexapetala</i>
white bryony	<i>Bryonia alba</i>
*wild basil	<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>
*wild chervil	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>
*yellow archangel	<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i>
*yellow floatingheart	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>
yellow nutsedge	<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>
yellow starthistle	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>

Class C Weeds—Local Control

babysbreath	<i>Gypsophila paniculata</i>
buffalobur	<i>Solanum rostratum</i>
cereal rye	<i>Secale cereale</i>
common St. Johnswort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>
field bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>
hairy whitetop	<i>Lepidium appelianum</i>
hoary cress	<i>Lepidium draba</i>
jointed goatgrass	<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i>
longspine sandbur	<i>Cenchrus longispinus</i>
Medusahead	<i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i>
reed canarygrass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>
smoothseed alfalfa dodder	<i>Cuscuta approximata</i>
spikeweed	<i>Centromadia pungens</i>
thistle, bull	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>
thistle, Canada	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
yellowflag iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>



Tree-of-heaven is a Class C Noxious Weed in Franklin County and on Washington's quarantine list. Its distribution is prohibited into and within the state.

In urban areas the tree's roots can uplift concrete and damage infrastructure. Cutting and mowing are not effective control methods as the tree responds by producing stump sprouts and root suckers. The extensive root system must be targeted with a systemic herbicide over multiple years for complete control.

The Spotted Lanternfly, an insect that poses a severe threat to the state's agriculture, prefers tree-of-heaven for nesting. This pesky insect has been found in the eastern U.S. and there is concern Spotted Lanternfly could be introduced into WA.

Learn more about noxious weeds at fcweedboard.com