



The Sage

E-NEWS FROM THE FRANKLIN COUNTY
NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL BOARD

SPRING 2019

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Board Meetings are open to the public and held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 pm from March — October
- Visit our newly re-vamped website at fweedboard.com
- Home & Garden Show- Feb 22-24th
- Roadside residual applications to begin soon
- Staff is available for education and outreach

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| NEW Look To Our Website | 2 |
| Cost Share Program Update | 3 |
| Roadside Spray Program | 3 |
| We Are Here To Assist You | 3 |
| Announcements | 4 |
| Future Plans | 4 |
| Kid's Corner | 5 |
| Crossword Puzzle | |
| Coordinator's Desk | 6 |
| Crossword Puzzle Clues & Answers | 6 |

2019 Noxious Weed List Update

Each year the State Noxious Weed Control Board votes on changes and additions to the noxious weed list. This past year, the Noxious Weed Committee of the State Weed Board conducted a review of approximately half of the Class B noxious weeds. After consulting with Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board (FCNWCB) Program Coordinator, Todd Harris, the committee proposed designation changes for three noxious weeds in Franklin County. Dalmatian toadflax, houndstongue and European coltsfoot were changed from Class B non-designate to Class B-designate noxious weeds. “The designation changes for these noxious weeds is appropriate, given current population distributions in our county,” Harris says. In Franklin County, destruction of the seedbank and all above and below ground vegetative parts of the plant is required for Class B-designates.

Dalmatian toadflax is an erect perennial forb reproducing by seed and creeping rootstock. Its deep taproot makes Dalmatian toadflax efficient in capturing water and withstanding grazing. It produces yellow snapdragon-like flowers June through October. Forage value is significantly reduced where large infestations exist.

Houndstongue is a tap-rooted biennial overwintering as a rosette during the first year of growth. Stout stems produce red to burgundy flowers the second year. The plant reproduces solely by seed. Houndstongue is sometimes referred to as the Velcro plant because its fruits consist of prickly nutlets that cling to whatever comes into contact with it. Houndstongue is poisonous to horses and cattle.

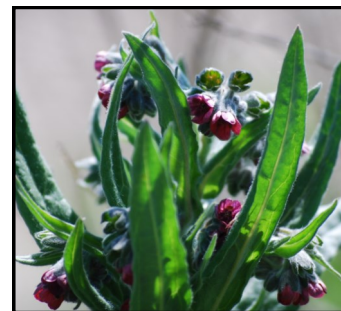
European coltsfoot is a rhizomatous perennial commonly found growing in open to shaded moist environments. It produces yellow dandelion-like flowers on short, flowering stems. There are no known infestations in Franklin County.

In addition to the designation changes, the State Weed Board updated five scientific names of noxious weeds.

Our website contains informational brochures to help you recognize and control noxious weeds, the 2019 weed list, and information on scientific name updates. Visit fweedboard.com for these and lots of other good information about our program, projects and resources.



Dalmatian toadflax flowers resemble snapdragons



Houndstongue flowers



European coltsfoot flowers

See Our New Online Design

Our website just got a brand new look!

Please check it out at fcweedboard.com.

You'll find a new layout that's easier to navigate and more mobile-friendly with added browser security and new features.

- ◆ Keep up with the latest events and happenings in the Weed Board world with updated announcements, such as trade shows, Board meetings, applicator training dates, grower meetings and important sign-up deadlines.
- ◆ Learn all about noxious weeds and how to control them from our weed identification links and "Options for Control" downloads.



Diffuse Knapweed
Present in Franklin County

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Eurasian Watermilfoil
Present in Franklin County

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

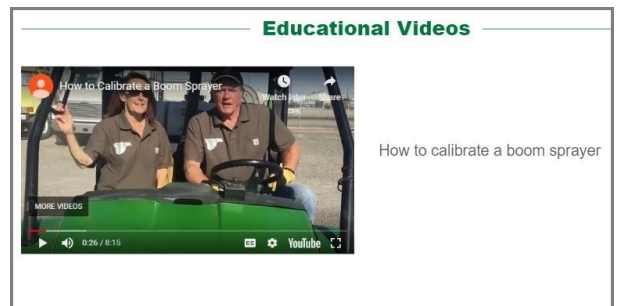
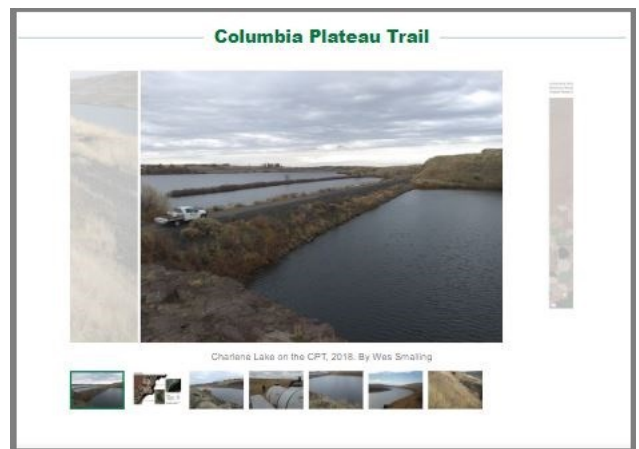
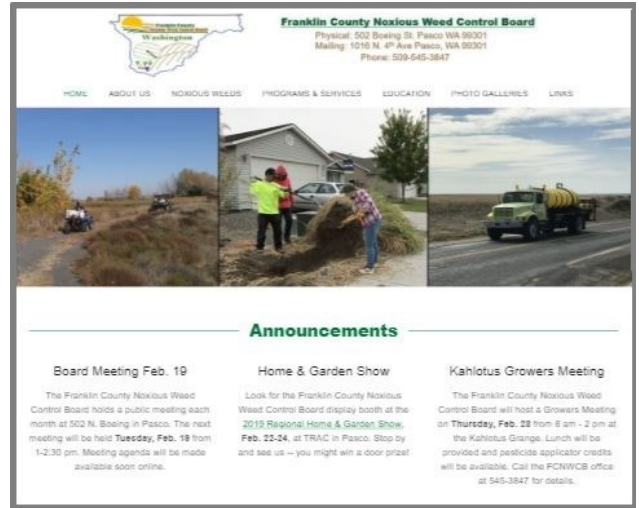


European Coltsfoot
Class B Designate

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

- ◆ Find out what we're all about on our staff and Board of Directors pages.
- ◆ View photo galleries of projects we have going on around Franklin County.
- ◆ Get the details on the programs and services we offer to landowners and the public, such as cost shares, landowner consultations and noxious weed education.

- ◆ When you visit our website be sure to check out our latest [educational YouTube videos](#) on a variety of topics including noxious weed control, sprayer calibration, our work on county roadsides, grant projects and more. Click on the Education tab on the main menu bar to find our videos, publications and other materials.



We hope you enjoy the updated new look of our website at fcweedboard.com

and we always welcome your feedback.

Cost Share Program Update

In 2018, Franklin County Noxious Weed Control Board implemented a cost share program to help defray the cost of treating noxious weed infestations on low-value land. The program targeted yellow starthistle, Scotch thistle, diffuse knapweed and rush skeletonweed. In its inaugural year, 3,883 acres of severely infested rangeland was sprayed by aerial application.

We were very happy with the willingness of landowners to participate and spray noxious weeds on their properties. The cost share program provides benefits to both landowner and FCNWCB. Coordinating large aerial applications allows us to increase the acreage sprayed and track ongoing progress while helping adjoining landowners to cooperatively work together on noxious weed control.

In 2019 we plan to get an additional 3,981 acres sprayed. The cost share payment to landowners of \$9.29 per acre is based on the total number of acres signed up during the application period.



Roadside Spraying



FCNWCB works in conjunction with the FC Public Works Department to spray county roadsides. For several years a residual product was applied to the dryland area in the fall and sensitive areas were sprayed in the spring. In 2018 the decision was made to move all residual applications to the spring-time. We found doing so controlled vegetation longer into the year and we will continue managing roadside weeds in this manner going forward.

Five years ago FCNWCB took on roadside spraying to demonstrate what could be done to control weeds when applying the right product at the right time. This past year we noticed cleaner roadsides countywide, which we attribute to a depletion in the seedbank. Cleaner roads are just one way in which our efforts are recognized. Thank you to all the landowners who have contacted our office to compliment us on our roadside work.

We Are Here To Assist You

Education and outreach are viewed as important aspects of our program. One of our primary goals is to be a resource for the community. Our staff is always available to assist the public in noxious weed identification and control. We are happy to consult with residents to develop a practical management plan that meets their needs and our goals.

Attending local events is a big part of our outreach program and we want to be approachable. You will find one of our staff members manning our booth at area events, eager to talk with you and provide you with educational materials. We encourage you to visit our booths at the Regional Home and Garden Show Feb 22-24th or at the Benton Franklin Fair and Rodeo Aug 20-24th. Introduce yourself, meet us and check out all the resources we have to offer!

Our staff can give presentations to all types of groups such as farmers, master gardeners, public agencies and school children. These informational presentations are geared for the audience and are a great way to network and increase your knowledge of noxious weeds.



Announcements

Home & Garden Show Feb 22-24th

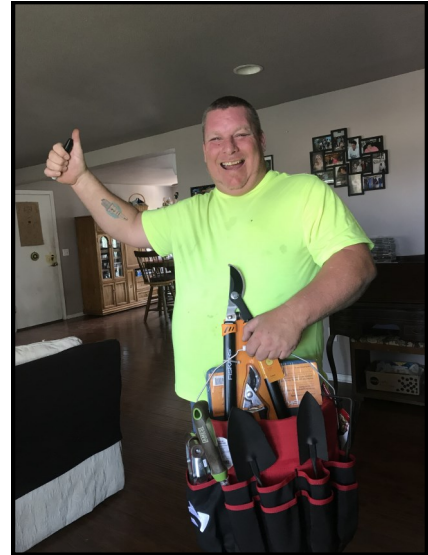
Look for the FCNWCB's display and video booth at the 2019 Regional Home & Garden Show, **Feb. 22-24**, at TRAC in Pasco. Stop by and sign up for our newsletter — you might be the lucky winner of a door prize!

Grower Meeting

FCNWCB will host a Growers Meeting on **Thursday, Feb. 28th** from 8am-2pm at the Kahlotus Grange. Lunch will be provided and applicator credits will be available. Call the FCNWCB office at 545-3847 for details.

March Board Meeting

The Franklin County Board of Directors holds a public meeting each month at its office located at 502 N. Boeing St. in Pasco. In March the Board will meet **Monday March 18th** from 7-8:30pm.



Jackson was excited to win our door prize in 2018!

Future Plans

Do you want to control noxious weeds on your property but don't have the proper equipment?

We know Franklin County residents want to comply with noxious weed law but getting the job done can be difficult without the tools to do so. In an effort to assist residents of the county, FCWB is working toward being able to offer the use of a spray tank and boom. We hope to have this piece of equipment available soon to make your noxious weed control easier.



502 Boeing St Pasco, WA 99301
E-mail: fcwb@co.franklin.wa.us

Phone: 509-545-3847
Website: fcweedboard.com

Hint: Choose from this list of noxious weeds:

Scotch thistle, puncturevine, Ravenna grass, kochia, rush skeletonweed, yellow starthistle, poison hemlock, diffuse knapweed

N O X I O U S W E E D C R O S S W O R D

Holly Kress



4

1

1

2

3

2

3

4



Crossword Puzzle Clues

| DOWN | ACROSS |
|---|---|
| 1. My pretty flowers may be visited by horses and bees, but beware, I'm not good forage and I cause chewing disease! | 1. From your yard I will get away. You better head me off at the pass; I'm the escaped ornamental...? |
| 2. I grow tallest of all. My leaves grow wide and I'm covered in hairs that bristle. My big purple flowers give you the clue that I am a? | 2. Be wary of these stems with purple blotches, touching this plant might land you a trip to the doctor's office! |
| 3. I tumble with the wind spreading seeds as I go. Now there are hundreds of plants spreading to and fro! | 3. Don't be fooled by my winter appearance, for I might look dead. Next year I will spring back to life and with the wind my seeds will spread! |
| 4. My flowers are white and I grow very round. In dry, gravelly soils are where I can be found. That's the place I will spread my seed, you guessed it! My name is ...? | 4. Step on me barefoot and you are sure to whine! I'm the prickly seed pod of ...? |

Sage Words From Our Program Coordinator

Although the weather outside is currently very cold and white, soon the weather will turn to sunny, warm, breezy spring days. The growing season will soon be upon us and with that so will the weeds! While there is downtime, I would encourage everyone to think about those weedy issues that we all dealt with last year. Plan ahead, so when the soil warms up you are ready to do battle. After all, it's always easier to stay on top of weed problems than to try and catch up from behind.

One thought: Apply residual chemical products early while rainfall is likely. Using residual products where appropriate can save you a lot of weed pulling later and, of even more value, residual products will prevent weed seed production. As you reduce seed production year after year, the work involved in controlling noxious and nuisance weeds is gradually less burdensome.

Todd Harris, FCWB Program Coordinator

Crossword Puzzle Answers

DOWN

1. Yellow starthistle
2. Scotch thistle
3. Kochia
4. Diffuse knapweed

ACROSS

1. Ravenna grass
2. Poison hemlock
3. Rush skeletonweed
4. Puncturevine

Visit our new website at fcweedboard.com