

# Spread the Word Not the Weed



January

Winter | 2014

## Coming Events

- **De. 16 1:30pm**  
Chelan County  
Noxious Weed Board
- **Feb. 17 8am-4pm**  
Weed Management  
Workshop,  
Wenatchee
- **Feb.. 28 12-5pm**  
Native Planting 101

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## Be a Winter Weed Warrior

Just because some weeds become dormant and all but disappear in winter, doesn't mean there isn't anything to be done. Don't be lulled into a false sense of security.

Winter is the perfect opportunity to plan an integrated weed management program or assess your current program. It is critical to complete this during winter before weeds begin growing.

In the planning phase problem areas and options for integrated weed management should be considered

for specific weeds on your property. Cultural, mechanical, biological and chemical weed control methods are all powerful tools, when used properly. If you have been using an integrated weed management plan



**Don't be lulled into a false sense of security.**

and have monitored and collected data on your results, winter is a good time to review your notes and assess whether your plan is working.

If you haven't had a management plan, winter study and a mental review of your land will set you up for your springtime weed survey and inventory.

Your Noxious Weed Control Department can advise you on the design of an integrated weed management program specifically designed for your property.

## Weeds on the Move:

### Changes to the State Noxious Weed List

The State Weed Board has adopted the 2015 weed list. **Ravenna grass** was added to the Class A list and **Pampas and Jubata grasses and Italian arum** will be added to the Class C list

These large ornamental grasses are invasive in California, escaped in Oregon and are invasive in Washington prompting

these changes in classification and designations.

Shiny geranium will be reclassified from a Class A to a Class B noxious weed everywhere except Clark County.

Hoary alyssum will be designated throughout region 4, which includes all of Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan, Ferry and Stevens

Counties except Pend Oreille County and those areas lying north of Highway 20 in Ferry County.

Visit the State Noxious Weed Control Board website to read the Written Findings on these 'weeds on the move'.

<http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/>



# Hitchhiking Not Allowed on Trucks



It's much easier and cost effective to control weeds at the pit than after the material is transported to other sites.

It's a big job to fight noxious and invasive species on public lands once they become established by natural means. It would be nice not to have to worry about weeds or seeds imported unintentionally in loads of sand or gravel fill.

vehicles or by the sale and movement of contaminated sand and gravel.

Although concerns about the spread of weeds via gravel and sand are commonly expressed, Nevada is the only state with a program.

to enlist support of state departments of transportation, county road departments, forest services and land management offices.

It is easier and more cost-effective to control weeds at the pit than after the gravel is transported to other sites. Using fill from pits where weed growth is monitored and controlled is likely to reduce weed problems.

Using weed-free sand and gravel reduces the chances of noxious weeds spreading along our roadways. Many noxious weeds are found along ROWs and in disturbed areas. These seeds are commonly spread by

The North American Weed Management Association (*now the No. American Invasive Species Council*) was the first to develop a Weed Free Gravel Certification Program and continues

Washington State has no Weed-Free Gravel Certification Program.

## Participate in the Process

"The WSNWCB encourages and promotes the use of non-invasive alternatives to these proposed ornamental plants on its website and will provide this information to nurseries, landscapers, and gardeners."

Every year, the State Noxious Weed Board adopts a new Noxious Weed list (WAC 16-750)

Weed species may be added or removed, the Class (A,B, or C) may be changed, or the required control area of a Class B designate may be changed.

The Noxious Weed Committee meets several times a year to review and discuss proposed changes to the list. In November at the State Board Meeting the Committee presents their recommendations so the Board can make a well-informed decision.

Anyone in Washington state can request that a plant species be added or removed from the Noxious Weed List. RCW 1710.80 provides clear guidelines.



## Weed Certification Class

The Chelan County Noxious Weed Board has announced its annual 7 credit Weed Management Workshop Tuesday February 17, 2015 at Confluence Technology Center from 8:00am to 4:00pm.

The course will provide 7 pesticide license recertification credits, 4 credits available in

the morning and 3 in the afternoon.

Topics will include weed laws, records and compliance, weed species identification, most effective herbicide use, weed control for ROWs, biological weed control and integrated weed management.

Registration at the door will be \$10. Local, State or Federal agency applicators can pay by invoice upon request.

Coffee and pastry will be provided and there will be a free drawing at the end of the day for a copy of the book, *Weeds of the West* by the Western Society of Weed Science.

"The philosopher who said that work well done never needs doing over, never weeded a garden."  
Ray D. Everson

# About Us

The Noxious Weed Board was created April 22, 1986 It consists of five citizen volunteers who represent five geographic districts that cover the entire county. The Board meets throughout the year and provides vision and direction for the weed control program.



## Our Mission

“It is the mission of Chelan County Noxious Weed Control Board to protect and preserve the agricultural lands and natural resources of the county from the degrading effects of invasive noxious weeds and to promote the control of invading noxious weeds through best management practices with a focus on education, prevention, technical assistance and control of noxious weeds through voluntary compliance with RCW 17.10 and WAC 16-750.”



“Our primary goal is to focus on education, prevention, and technical assistance.”

## From the Coordinator’s Desk



“This is going to be a tough year if the Legislature can’t find the money to fund the State Agencies that provide our grants.

Overall we had a very good year. I have a great staff that work very hard to get our message out and

they tackle each complaint with a good attitude. We have over 2,000 case files we are starting to pare down. We completed an 80 mile riparian survey of the Columbia River and will survey 40 more miles this spring. Our Contractor completed

the aquatic survey for the Columbia River and Lake Chelan. We are still helping County residents with their weed control questions and providing integrated management plans. We received more requests for help than complaints. I call that success.”

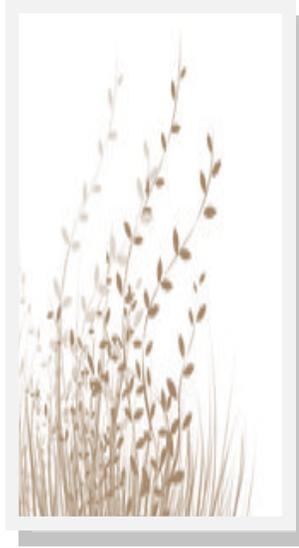
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*Spread the word, not the weeds.*

## Full Circle

### Control noxious weeds and grow healthy plant communities

There is more to weed control than just controlling weeds.

With good planning, you can grow native vegetation and other desirable plants that will help keep out noxious weeds and promote a healthy and well balanced plant community.

Developing an integrated weed management plan involves choosing the best control method or combination of methods and the best time of year for the weed or weeds you want to control. These are the most common control methods:

**Mechanical control** is more than just tools. Techniques such as hand-pulling or scraping, dead-heading, mower blade height or



**In full sun areas it can take 4-6 inches of mulch to discourage new weeds from establishing.**

tilling depth are also important .

**Cultural control** alters the site conditions to discourage unwanted noxious weeds and encourage desired plants by over-seeding desirable vegetation, augmenting the soil and managing water and light availability.

**Biological control** commonly relies on insects that target specific weeds. Grazing animals such as goats, sheep or other livestock may also control some noxious weeds.

**Chemical control** using herbicides opens up sites for other plants to take root, including undesirable plants such as noxious weeds. **It is critical to revegetate bare ground with desired plant species before weeds get a chance to establish.**

An integrated weed management plan helps to prevent invasive plants from becoming established so you can achieve the land use goals you set for your property.