Devils in Disguise

- **know what's lurking in your landscape and how to control it**
  - **A few weeds you might not be familiar with**
  - **And a few you might be overly familiar with**
  - **This is by no means a comprehensive list**

State ranks noxious weeds by how widespread they are

- **Class A Weeds** – new invaders, control required statewide, still a chance to eradicate

Class A: garlic mustard

- **Class B Weeds** – control required only in particular counties or regions, still have a chance to stop them from getting established in some places

Class B: tansy ragwort

- **Class C Weeds** – widespread weeds; counties may select these for required control but focus is mostly on awareness and technical assistance

Class C: English ivy

Two class C noxious weeds required for control in King County

Absinthe wormwood

Artemesia absinthium

Buffalobur

Solanum rostratum

Weeds of concern

Weeds of concern

- Not listed as noxious weeds, legally
- King County recognizes them as invasive and harmful to the environment

If not regulated, why bother controlling weeds?

- Habitat degradation
- Spread beyond site
- Increase biodiversity
- Harmful to humans and animals
- Bad example to others

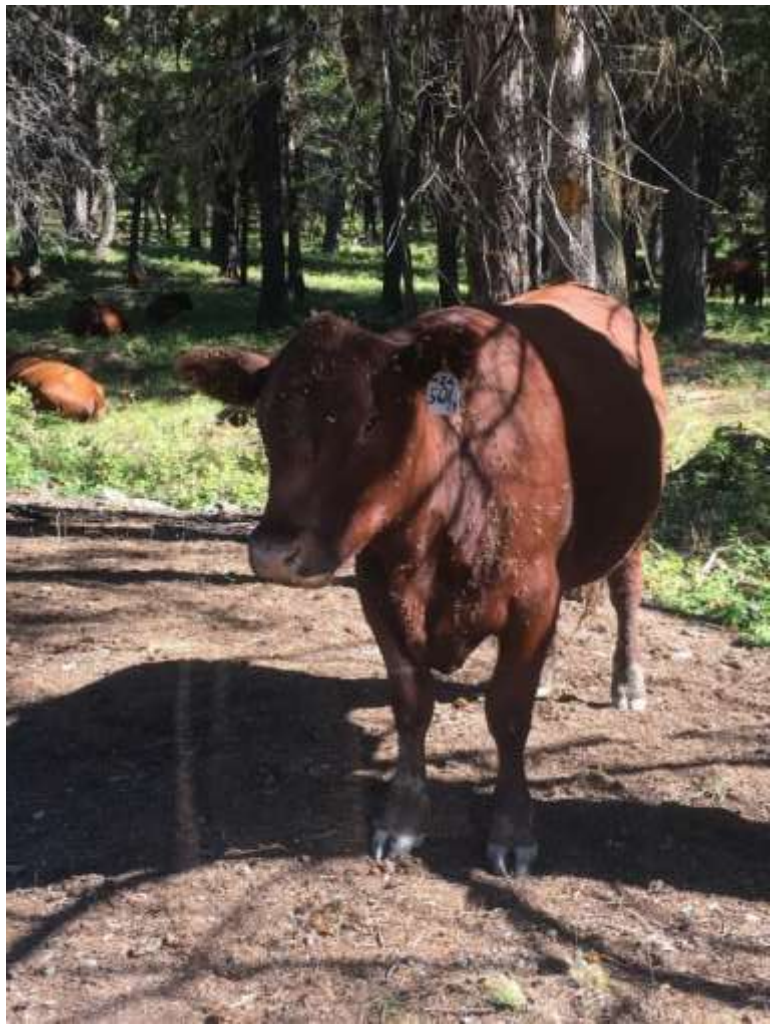
Houndstongue

Cynoglossum officianale

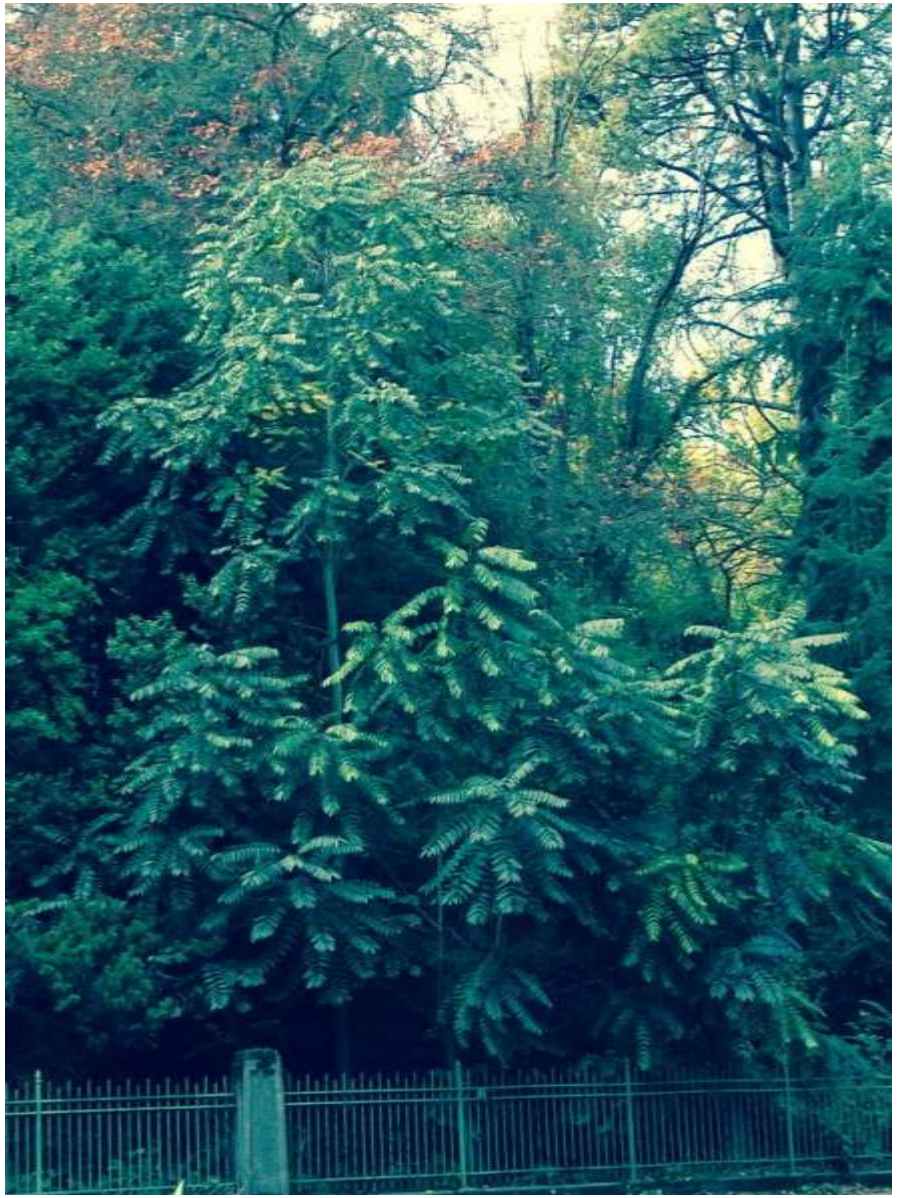
Class B Noxious Weed

- Houndstongue is more of a potential problem in rural areas
- A liver toxin for cattle
- Wine-colored, coiled inflorescence
- Large, woody root up to three feet deep
- Rough, hairy, tongue shaped leaves
- Reproduces through seeds covered with hooked bristles
- Definitely keep it from going to seed
- Found some at Golden Gardens which may have been brought in via dogs
- Can use 2, 4-d amine

Vector!



Tree of heaven



Tree of heaven

Ailanthus altissima

Class C – Non-regulated weed

Tree of Heaven

- Fast growing, can reach 80 feet tall
- Deciduous and dioecious
- Glandular teeth at base of leaflet
- 10-27 leaflets in pinnately compound leaf
- Often missing the terminal leaflet
- Pinnately compound leaves
- Distinctive smell
- Host plant for invasive lanternfly
- Can sprout from wide reaching roots
- Smells like popcorn, peanut butter or worse
- Allelopathic
- Native to China

Spotted lanternfly

Black locust

Robinia pseudoacacia

Weed of Concern

- Native to Eastern US
- Thorny tree
- Fragrant flowers
- Sprouts from roots, seeds
- Can be controlled with EZ-ject imazapyr

Multiflora rose

Rosa multiflora

Monitor list

- Arching, sometimes climbing canes up to 20’ tall
- Native to parts of temperate Asia
- Clusters of white to pink flowers
- Fringed glandular stipules

Control

- Large patches can be controlled by mowing 3-6 times during the growing season for up to 4 years
- Cut stump
- Cut it back and let it regrow then foliar spray with glyphosate or triclopyr

Weeds with tubers, bulbs – special challenge
No easy answers - Timing is everything

- Lesser celandine
  - Is only visible above ground for a short time early spring
- Italian arum
- European coltsfoot
  - Leaves develop after flowers so need to wait until flowers have seeded to spray

Lesser celandine

Ficaria verna

Class B non-regulated except

- If small patch, can dig if you make sure you get all of the tubers
- Spray after leafing and preferably before blooming
- Glyphosate is effective
- Triclopyr is not effective
- Sulfometuron (Oust) had good results

Italian arum

Arum italicum

Class C Noxious weed

- Contains calcium oxalate crystals
- Very difficult to control
- Tubers
- Berry clusters – cut and discard them in garbage in August


ATLAS
THERMA
FIT
L

European coltsfoot

Tussilago farfara

Class B noxious weed

Flowering, early April

Exposed rhizomes

European coltsfoot

Native coltsfoot, *Petasites frigidus*

- Medicinal herb (cough relief)
- Flowers bloom before leaves
- Need to wait for leaves to appear before spraying

- Planting competing plants can shade out seedlings
- Apply herbicide after it has fully leafed out
- Seeds have a short life (just a few months)
- Triclopyr and imazapyr provided some control
- Glyphosate is reported to be effective

Broadleaved helleborine

Epipactis helleborine

Monitor plant

Weedy orchid

- European import
- Tiny seeds
- Hairy
- Can resprout from root fragments
- Wasp pollinated

Annual weeds – shallow roots but lots of seeds

- Geraniums
  - Shiny
  - Herb Robert
  - Dove's foot
- Impatiens
  - Policeman's helmet
  - Small flowered impatiens
  - Spotted jewelweed
- Velvet leaf
- Shotweed

Shiny geranium

Geranium lucidum

Class B noxious weed

Weak central root

Cotyledons

Control for shining geranium

- Manual control
  - Get the entire root, look for the knot at the base
  - This will disturb the soil
- Mulch
- Burn with propane torch
  - Works for seedlings, young plants
- Chemical
  - Triclopyr, along with pre-emergent

Spotted jewelweed

Impatiens capensis

Non-regulated Class B

- Was previously thought to be native but really only native to eastern US
- Orange flowers with spots
- Grows in moist areas
- Can hybridize with native *I. ecornuta* so need to know the difference when controlling
- *I. x Pacifica is the hybrid*
- Bluish green alternate leaves on translucent stem

- Very good pictures and key in the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board Written findings
- I. capensis has spurs and spots
- I. ecornuta (native) has neither
- The hybrid, I. x Pacific has either no spots and spurs or spots and no spurs

Small flowered balsam

Impatiens parviflora

Class A noxious weed

Small flowered balsam

- Shallow root system
- Can be pulled out easily, like other impatiens

Policeman’s helmet

Impatiens glandulifera

Class B noxious weed

Silver lace vine

Fallopia bauldschuanica

Weed of concern

- Related to knotweed
- Climbs over other plants which may impact the ability to spray it
- It can resprout from stems and roots so cutting it is not effective
- Branching vines should be untangled from underlying plants before spraying

Birdsfoot trefoil

Pokeweed

Phytolacca Americana

Pokeweed

- East coast native
- Herbaceous perennial
- Dark red stems
- Can produce 50,000 seeds per plant
- Seeds can last 40 years
- Toxic unless cooked correctly
  - (Don’t do it)

Rough chervil

Chaerophyllum temulentum

Weed of concern

- Perennial weed from Europe
- Toxic
- Roughly hairy stems with purple spots
- Solid stems, swollen below stem branches

Hanging sedge
Carex pendula
Weed of Concern

Introduced as an ornamental

- Evergreen
- Long pendulous spikes up to over 30 cm long
- Cespitose
- Glaucus leaf underside
- Clumps more than a foot across
- There are some native sedges that share some of these characteristics

South American sponge plant

Limnobium laevigatum

New Class A noxious weed

Sponge plant in Pacific County

- Forms dense mats
- Reproduces by seed and vegetatively
- Listed as noxious weed in California where it affects infrastructure and recreational water access

WA Dept. of Ecology

Poison hemlock

Conium maculatum

Class B noxious weed

Fernlike leaves, smooth spotted stem

- Highly toxic when ingested
- Can volatize
- Wear gloves

- Poison control – 1-800-222-1222
- Late season poison hemlock with dead canes
- Poison hemlock remains toxic after it’s dead for 3 years

Wild parsnip

Pastinaca sativa

Just be aware of it

- Sap can cause phytophotodermatitis
- Not as serious as giant hogweed but causes painful blisters when skin is exposed to the sun
- Has yellow flowers

Eggleaf spurge

Euphorbia oblongata

Class A noxious weed

Milky sap

Oval leaf

Eggleaf spurge

- Oblong leaves
- Milky sap
- Wear gloves
- Two or 3 applications of glyphosate
- 2, 4-d

Spurge laurel

Daphne laureola

Class B non-regulated

Spurge laurel

- Native to Europe and North Africa
- Fragrant flowers in the winter
- Reproduces from seed and root sprouts
- Seeds fairly short lived (possible two years?)

- Triclopyr on cut stumps
- Sap can volatilize if mowed or weed whacked
- Young plants can be pulled
- Weed wrenches used on larger plants
- Cutting below the soil line may be effective

Be aware of pollinators and other wildlife when controlling and looking for noxious weeds

Weed disposal

- On-site
  - Plants not in flower or seed set. Tarp or cardboard on ground.
- Commercial yard waste – high heat
  - Non-regulated noxious weeds
- Landfill – Regulated noxious weeds

Prevention

- Don’t plant plants that may prove to be invasive here
  - If a plant’s too good to be true, likely it is
- Brush and clean your boots and equipment. Before and after working on site
- Check for bur-like seeds on animals and clothing
- Don’t dump yardwaste

Be prepared to monitor and maintain

- After the initial work is done to remove invasive plants:
  - There will be ongoing work – this is neverending
  - Look for new invaders from outside the site
  - Look for skipped weeds
  - The soil is probably disturbed and the seed bank stirred up so look for new seedlings

King County Noxious Weed Control Program

- Karen Peterson, Noxious Weed Control Specialist
- (206) 477-9333
- Karen.Peterson@kingcounty.gov
- www.kingcounty.gov/weeds
- https://www.nwcb.wa.gov/