

# Combined Weed Program

## City of Lincoln

### March 2011 Monthly Report

[www.lancaster.ne.gov/weeds](http://www.lancaster.ne.gov/weeds)

### Inspections to begin in April

The Weed Control Office will begin Noxious Weed inspections within the city limits in April. During the winter months a number of phragmites locations have been found by our staff or by citizens and turned into the office. Phragmites seems to be in about every low lying area, ditch, drainage or creek. One report was at a location on a golf course in southeast Lincoln, the person mentioned he was tired of having to look for his ball in that stuff last summer. We will work with the manager of the course as well as other public and private landowners to eradicate each infestation.

### Noxious Weed Control Act Q & A

**Q:** Who is responsible for controlling noxious weeds on their property?

**A:** It shall be the duty of every person to control the spread of noxious weeds on lands owned or controlled by him or her and to use such methods for that purpose as are specified in rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the director.

### NWCA Spring Training

The Nebraska Weed Control Association (NWCA) held its training for Weed Control Superintendents at Central Community College in Hastings on March 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>. Weed Superintendent Brent Meyer and Chief Inspector Barb Frazier both attended. The Noxious Weed Control Act requires each County Weed Control Superintendent to attend these trainings and pass a written exam to be qualified as a Weed Superintendent.

Topics included: Weed free forage program, Watch list categories, Herbicide choices for Noxious Weed Control, Noxious weeds of South Dakota – what's next for Nebraska? How Herbariums work and what can you do?, and How to write successful grants.

I was able to present on **Japanese and Giant Knotweed**. The presentation on how to identify and eradicate knotweed is on our website at [www.lancaster.ne.gov/weeds](http://www.lancaster.ne.gov/weeds) and click on the *Knotweed presentation* link.



I thought it would be neat to dig some root stock and plant it to see if I could get a plant for display by training time. Just to show the superintendents around the state what knotweed looked like in person. I dug up the root stock on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and we planted it the next day. By the 9<sup>th</sup> it began to grow and then there was no stopping it. By the 29<sup>th</sup> it



measured at 50" tall. It grew as much as 5 inches some days. (So, from root stock to 50 inches in 27 days.) No wonder this thing is now a noxious weed. I sent out daily pictures and updates to the NWCA and had a contest to see if people could guess the height by the 29<sup>th</sup>. It gave everyone a chance to see just how aggressive our newest noxious weed is and what to look for.



### April Planned Activities

- 8 NE Invasive Species Council
- 13 5 Rivers WMA – Tecumseh
- 14 Management Team
- 15 Publish General Notice
- 18 Seasonal inspectors begin
- 19 LPWMA Meeting - Wahoo
- 20 Staff training @ Extension
- 28 Problem Resolution Team