

Combined Weed Program

City of Lincoln

May 2011 Monthly Report

www.lancaster.ne.gov/weeds

Japanese Knotweed (*bad news / good news*)

First the bad news.... Last month I reported that we had NOT found any new infestations of Japanese Knotweed. We were not so lucky in May. Knotweed plantings between the sidewalk and the street were discovered at



over a dozen locations in downtown Lincoln. The Downtown Lincoln Association was aware of the

locations and will remove the plants and begin chemical treatment of any new growth.

Now the good news..... Five of the six locations that we previously knew about are



having some type of control work being done, either chemical or mechanical. I have been working with the final landowner's grounds keeper on having his knotweed removed and it should be coming out this month.

Weed Abatement

Our office received 327 complaints in May. 58 complaints were on properties that had already received a prior complaint. We are receiving between 20 and 30 complaints each day via our web site, the Mayor's Action Center and phone complaints. We have been able to complete the 1st inspection usually on the next working day following the complaint. In most cases if the landowner of record does not comply, the contract to mow is issued within about 12 to 13 days after receiving the initial complaint.

Our inspectors completed 587 inspections in May. 443 were 1st inspections, 129 were 2nd inspections and 15 were 3rd inspections.

We have sent out 79 letters and 238 legal notices requiring landowners to mow. 22 contracts have been issued to our contractors to mow properties within the city limits.

Noxious Weeds within City Limits

Our inspectors have completed 308 inspections on noxious weeds within the city limits. 281 of those are 1st inspections with 27 follow up inspections. They include 205 sites with Musk thistle, 2 sites with Plumeless thistle, 18 sites with Japanese Knotweed, and 56 sites with Leafy Spurge.

Noxious Weed Control Act Q & A

Q: (a) Who is responsible for the cost of the control activities of the control authority? (b) This cost is considered what? (c) Beginning at what date?

A: (a) The cost of any such control shall be at the expense of the owner. (b) A lien on the property upon which the control measures were taken as a special assessment (c) on the date of control.

June Planned Activities

- 9 Management Team Meeting
- 10 Invasive Species Council
- 16 NWCA Region meeting @ Lancaster Co.
- 21 LPWMA Meeting
- 30 Problem Resolution Team
- 30 Monthly activity report