



Weed Abatement Program Lancaster County / City of Lincoln

MARCH 2012

www.lancaster.ne.gov/weeds

Join the “Weed Watcher Team”

You’ve hopefully heard about the Weed Watcher program that we’ve been working on. It is now up and running and available from our office or can be downloaded from our website.

Outreach and education are a key component in organizing a successful program. Our staff will be available to train anyone wishing to join the Weed Watcher Program. The program includes a [Weed Watcher Resource Guide](#), a photo calendar to help you identify invasive plants as they grow throughout the season, and a [hit report](#) to give you a way to report the infestation.

Our Weed Watcher Program is designed to train and support volunteers to find and report new occurrences of harmful invasive plants. Weed Watchers help protect natural areas from the impacts of invasive plants by **detecting new populations early** before they get out of hand.



Weed Watchers are people who care about the health of our lands and want to help prevent the ecological and economic damage associated with plant invasions by looking for and reporting new weeds. Weed Watchers can be

private citizens who simply want to scan for new invaders while they hike. Often Weed Watchers are people already actively volunteering as a Master Gardener or for their local UNL Extension. Public and private land owners such as the Nebraska Game & Parks, Natural Resource Districts, or Farm Service Agencies also have staff and volunteers who watch for weeds as they trek across their land. Outdoorsmen, hunters and fishermen, geocachers, 4-H groups, boy & girl scouts, are

just a few of the groups that can help make a difference. Call 402-441-7817 if interested.

Husker Lawn & Leisure show

The weekend of March 16th – 18th we took our booth to the Lancaster Event Center for the Husker Lawn & Leisure show. Great crowds each day allowed me to talk to a lot of individuals about their weed problems.



Husker Lawn & Leisure show display

A lot of interest and concern on the phragmites and Japanese Knotweed that were displayed at the booth. We have a long way to go on education with both of these.

Funding for the event was provided by a grant received from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture to help with our outreach and education.

April Planned Activities

- 3-4 NWCA Spring Training @ Hastings
- 10 5 Rivers WMA
- 11 Inspect Landfills
- 12 Management Team Meeting
- 13 Invasive Species Council
- 16 Publish General Notice
- 17 LPWMA Meeting
- 18 Musk thistle inspections begin
- 26 Problem Resolution Team
- 30 Monthly activity report