

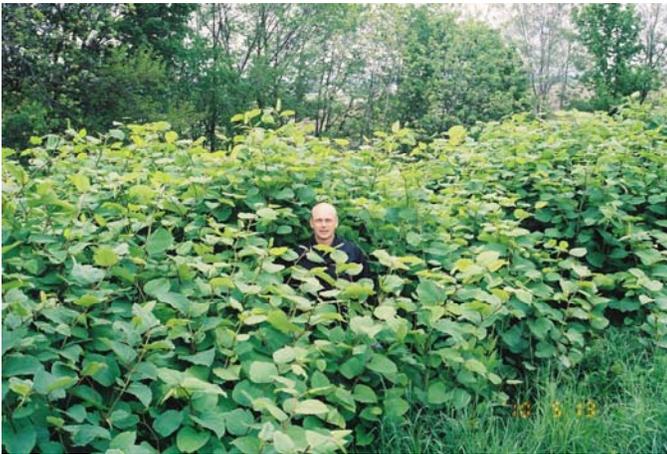
# Weed Control Authority Lancaster County



## January 2011 Monthly Report

### Public Relations

One of the responsibilities of our department is to educate the public on the new noxious and invasive weeds as well as the existing State mandated noxious weeds.



*Bohemian Knotweed*

In January the Lancaster County Weed Control office put out a news release on Japanese Knotweed. The release was picked up by some of the county newspapers as well as 1011now.com and Lancaster Counties Web site. The more the public knows and understands about the harm invasive weeds can do the easier it makes our job.

### Noxious Weed Control Act Q & A

**Q:** Who is responsible for designating which plants are considered noxious?

**A:** The State of Nebraska Director of Agriculture shall determine what weeds are noxious for purposes of the act.

In the process the director gathers information and recommendations from the Nebraska Noxious Weed Advisory Committee and the Nebraska Weed Control Association to make his decision.

### Seasonal Inspectors 2011

Jim Harder returns for his 3<sup>rd</sup> year and will again make inspections in the county in the southwest area. Jim is retired NRCS where he worked 38 years as a Resource Conservationist.

Pat McGrane is also retired NRCS where he worked for 32 years and was responsible for all agency media and public relations. Pat will work the early season in the city on noxious weeds until the regular seasonal help begins.

Shawn Walker is coming back for his second season and will make inspections within the city. Shawn is completing his sophomore year at UNL.

Ashley McAllister will be a city inspector this year. She served 4 years in the U.S. Air Force and is working on her BA at UNL in Fisheries and Wildlife. Ashley was recommended to us by her professor at UNL.

Jacob Jensen will be our inspector for the northwest part of the county. Jacob served 4 years in the U.S. Army and is currently studying Respiratory Therapy at Southeast Community College in Lincoln. Jacob's school schedule will allow him to work the entire growing season and will be able to help out other inspector's in their areas.

Barry Eitzmann will be a city inspector and is a recent graduate of Concordia University where he played football for the Bulldogs. Barry currently teaches at Raymond Central High School and plans to get married in April.

### February Planned Activities

- \* Insert for Water Bill
- 8 Commons Meeting Annual Report & Plan
- 9 5 Rivers WMA
- 11 Invasive Species Council
- 14-17 NWCA Conference @ Kearney
- 17 Mid Year Budget Review
- 21 Holiday
- 22 LPWMA
- 24 Problem Resolution Team
- 25 Monthly activity report