

Lancaster County Weed Control – City of Lincoln Weed Abatement

Purple Loosestrife Success

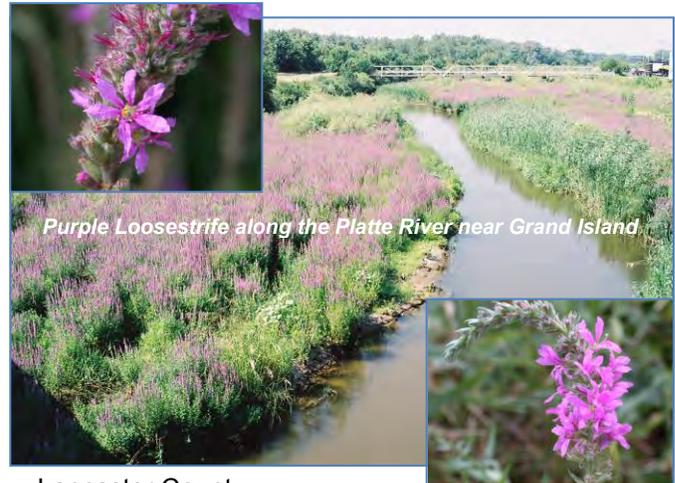
AUGUST 2015:

Purple loosestrife Success	1
New Account Clerk III	1
Inspection Activity Report	1
Nebraska's Noxious Weeds	2

"It is extremely important to recognize plants that pose a serious threat to Nebraska and work to bring the infestations down to a manageable level"

Flower Garden to Noxious Weed

[Purple loosestrife](#) was the first escaped ornamental and the first aquatic plant added to the State's noxious weed list. Added in 2001, it has become one of the best success stories we have to tell in Lancaster County. EDRR (*Early Detection Rapid Response*) has paid off with this plant. EDRR is the process we use to identify a problem early and then work to educate the public on its potential threat. It is extremely important to recognize plants that pose a serious threat to Nebraska and work to bring the infestations down to a manageable level before it becomes so widespread we can never catch up. In 2001



Purple Loosestrife along the Platte River near Grand Island

Lancaster County reported 490 locations; so far in 2015 our inspectors have confirmed only 20 locations. While we have been successful in the eastern part of the state, we continue to find new infestations that need to be controlled. Purple loosestrife does have a distinctive flower

and plant structure, however, we do want to caution that there are similar purple flowered plants in our landscapes that are OK, we don't want anyone to be confused and dig up the wrong plant. More information can be found on our [website](#) or contact our office for positive identification.

Welcome Amanda Stevens – Account Clerk III

Please join us in welcoming Amanda Stevens to the Weed Control office. Amanda comes to our office after working at Register of Deeds as a Land Records Technician, for 1 1/2 years. Her previous work experience in the private sector and with Lancaster County will be a tremendous asset in working with the citizens in Lancaster County. Amanda lives in Elmwood with her husband Todd where they family raise dogs. We look forward to working with Amanda; her experience will be a great addition to our staff.

Inspection Activity Report

As of June 31, 2015, the Weed Control staff has completed 7,564 inspections on 4,154 properties. Weed abatement within the City of Lincoln accounted for 5,146 inspections on 2,486 properties while noxious weeds accounted for 2,418 inspections on 1,668 properties. We've received 1,147 complaints from the public wanting help getting neighboring properties controlled. In order to gain compliance we've sent 1,976 letters and 1,152 legal notices requiring control. A total of 167 enforcements have been completed by our contractors, totaling \$22,975 in control cost.



**STOP INVASIVE SPECIES
IN YOUR TRACKS.**

PlayCleanGo.org

Lancaster County Weed Control
 444 Cherrycreek Rd. Bldg B
 Lincoln, NE. 68528

Phone: 402.441.7817
 Fax: 402.441.8616
 E-mail:
weeds@lancaster.ne.gov



We're on the Web!

www.lancaster.ne.gov/weeds

Good Neighbors –
 Control Invasive Weeds !!!

Nebraska's Noxious Weeds

It is the duty of each person who owns or controls land to effectively control noxious weeds on such land.

Noxious weed is a legal term used to denote a destructive or harmful weed for the purpose of regulation.

The Director of Agriculture establishes which plants are noxious. These non-native plants compete aggressively with desirable plants and vegetation. Failure to control noxious weeds in this state is a serious problem which is detrimental to the production of crops and livestock, and to the welfare of residents of this state. Noxious weeds may also devalue land and reduce tax revenue.



<p>Musk Thistle Height 1.6–9.8 ft</p> <p>Pink to purple flowers Mature seedhead</p>	<p>Canada Thistle Height 1–3.9 ft</p> <p>Pink to purple flowers</p>	<p>Plumeless Thistle Height 1–4.9 ft</p> <p>Purple flowers</p>
<p>Phragmites Height 3.2–20 ft</p> <p>Young seedhead Mature seedhead</p>	<p>Leafy Spurge Height 3–2.6 ft</p> <p>Large yellow leaves (bracts) Stem leaves have milky sap</p>	<p>Sericea Lespedeza Height 1.5–6.5 ft</p> <p>White or cream to yellowish white flowers</p>
<p>Japanese Knotweed Height 3–10 ft</p> <p>Creamy white to greenish white flowers</p>	<p>Giant Knotweed Height 8–13 ft</p> <p>Creamy white to greenish white flowers</p>	<p>Purple Loosestrife Height 1.3–8 ft</p> <p>Purple to magenta flowers</p>
<p>Saltcedar Height 3.3–20 ft</p> <p>Pink to white flowers</p>	<p>Spotted Knapweed Height 1–3.9 ft</p> <p>Lavender to purple flowers</p>	<p>Diffuse Knapweed Height 1–3.9 ft</p> <p>White/purplish flowers</p>
<p>Lancaster County's Noxious Weeds Newly Added</p>	<p>Cutleaf Teasel Height 4–8 ft</p> <p>White flowers</p>	<p>Common Teasel Height 3–6 ft</p> <p>Lavender to white flowers</p>

Good neighbors control noxious weeds — If you have questions or concerns about noxious weeds, please contact your local county noxious weed control authority, Nebraska Weed Control Association (www.neweed.org), or Nebraska Department of Agriculture.