

Lancaster County Weed Control – City of Lincoln Weed Abatement

Phragmites Control In Lancaster County

OCTOBER 2015:

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“This is a great example of how developing partnerships to accomplish a common goal can be successful”

Middle Creek

The weed control staff recently completed treatment of phragmites along Middle Creek in Lancaster County. Invasives that prefer riparian habitat create many challenges; one of those challenges is finding equipment able to complete the work. Two years ago the Lower Platte Weed Management Area (LPWMA) purchased an 8-wheel drive Argo to be used by its members. The Argo was purchased with funds from the LPWMA along with matching grant funds from the Nebraska Environmental Trust. The main funding for the LPWMA is



Treating non-native phragmites along Middle Creek

provided by the Lower Platte South, Lower Platte North and Papio-Missouri River NRD's.

The cost of control along Middle Creek will be reimbursed by the LPWMA.

The goal of the LPWMA is to improve the health of riparian areas for the benefit of the owners, users and general public. This is accomplished by preventing the establishment of all

riparian plant invaders and improving stream flow capacity through the management of the vegetation in the stream bed and on the banks.

This is a great example of how developing partnerships to accomplish a common goal can be successful. The LPWMA partners include landowners, county, state and federal agencies all working together.

Inspection Activity Report

As of September 30, 2015, the Weed Control staff has completed 10,326 inspections on 5,004 properties. Weed abatement within the City of Lincoln accounted for 7,255 inspections on 3,171 properties, while noxious weeds accounted for 3,071

inspections on 1,833 properties. We've received 1,799 complaints from the public wanting help getting neighboring properties controlled. In order to gain compliance we've sent 2,598 letters and 1,615 legal notices requiring

control. A total of 327 enforcements have been completed by our contractors, totaling \$48,246 in control cost. We had two noxious weed 15-day legal notices that went to court, resulting in a \$1,500 fine in each case.



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



STOP INVASIVE SPECIES
 IN YOUR TRACKS.
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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) Stems/leaves have milky sap</p>	<p>Sericea Lespedeza Height 1.5–6.5 ft</p> <p>White to 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.