

# Lancaster County Weed Control – City of Lincoln Weed Abatement

## UNL Plant Pathology Class Bio-Invader Tour

### INSIDE THIS REPORT:

UNL Plant Pathology Class	1
Fall Noxious Weed Control	1
Noxious Weed ID	2



### UNL Class Tour

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, 33 students from the Plant Pathology - bio-invader class at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln gathered at the North 48<sup>th</sup> street landfill to tour non-native phragmites. Professor Thomas Powers uses an hands on approach to teaching and gets the students out of the classroom and into the environment. This provides the students

the opportunity to witness firsthand the aggressive characteristics of this plant. Students are able to walk through the phragmites in order to help them understand how this plant can reduce water flow in the rivers and why wildlife will avoid heavily infested areas. The class learned about the ongoing statewide focus to control this invader in our rivers and wetlands, and what they can do to

help slow down its spread. During the tour they witnessed previous control efforts on the landfill site and learned why it's important to continue the work year after year. Phragmites left untreated will create a monoculture, taking out all other vegetation that exist in the wetland, thus driving out any insects or animals that depend on the wetland for their survival.



**STOP INVASIVE SPECIES  
IN YOUR TRACKS.**

[PlayCleanGo.org](http://PlayCleanGo.org)

*“Phragmites left untreated will create a monoculture, taking out all other vegetation that exist in the wetland”*

*“Fall is the ideal time to control musk thistle, leafy spurge, phragmites and some of the other hard to control noxious weeds”*

## Fall Noxious Weed Control

With cooler weather on the way, football season upon us, and harvest just around the corner, most of us think that our “weed season” is almost over. However, this is the time of year when the most effective weed control on certain species can be accomplished.

Fall is the ideal time to control musk thistle, leafy spurge, phragmites and some of the other hard to control noxious weeds. Most biennial and perennial plants are taking down nutrients to help survive the winter and will carry the herbicide easily into the plant. Treatments

in the fall give you a head start on your noxious weed control next spring, and I know you will like the results. If you would like recommendations for a specific problem, please contact our office for help developing a management plan that is right for your weed problem.

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We're on the Web!  
[lancaster.ne.gov/weeds](http://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><b>Musk Thistle</b>                  Height 1.6–9.8 ft</p> <p>Pink to purple flowers                  Mature seedhead</p>	<p><b>Canada Thistle</b>                  Height 1–3.9 ft</p> <p>Pink to purple flowers</p>	<p><b>Plumeless Thistle</b>                  Height 1–4.9 ft</p> <p>Purple flowers</p>	
<p><b>Phragmites</b>                  Height 3.2–20 ft</p> <p>Young seedhead                  Mature seedhead</p>	<p><b>Leafy Spurge</b>                  Height .3–2.6 ft</p> <p>Large yellow leaves (bracts)                  Stems/leaves have milky sap</p>	<p><b>Sericea Lespedeza</b>                  Height 1.5–6.5 ft</p> <p>White or cream to yellowish white flowers</p>	
<p><b>Japanese Knotweed</b>                  Height 3–10 ft</p> <p>Creamy white to greenish white flowers</p>	<p><b>Giant Knotweed</b>                  Height 8–13 ft</p> <p>Creamy white to greenish white flowers</p>	<p><b>Purple Loosestrife</b>                  Height 1.3–8 ft</p> <p>Purple to magenta flowers</p>	
<p><b>Saltcedar</b>                  Height 3.3–20 ft</p> <p>Pink to white flowers</p>	<p><b>Spotted Knapweed</b>                  Height 1–3.9 ft</p> <p>Lavender to purple flowers</p>	<p><b>Diffuse Knapweed</b>                  Height 1–3.9 ft</p> <p>White/purplish flowers</p>	
<p><b>Lancaster County's Noxious Weeds</b></p>		<p><b>Cutleaf Teasel</b>                  Height 4–8 ft</p> <p>White flowers</p>	<p><b>Common Teasel</b>                  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](http://www.neweed.org)) or Nebraska Department of Agriculture.