

# NOXIOUS WEEDS ALONG THE TRAIL

A noxious weed is a plant species that considered harmful to agricultural and/or horticultural crops, natural habitats, ecosystems, humans and livestock.



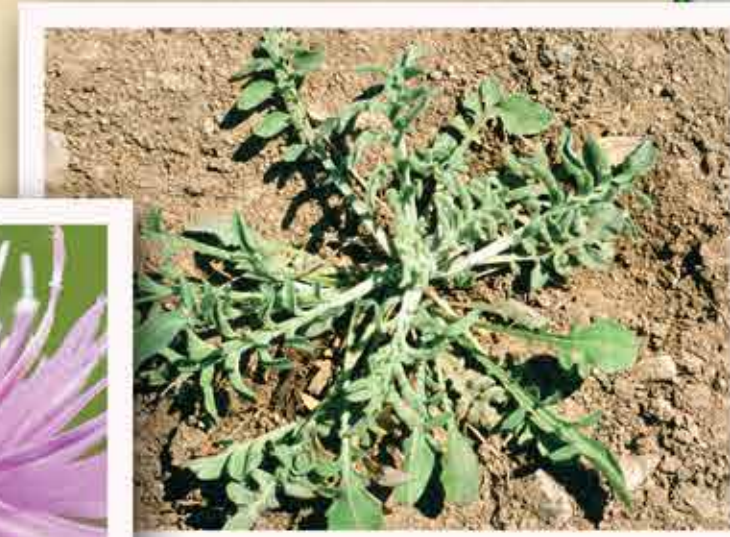
## SPOTTED KNAPWEED

**BLOOMS:**  
June-September

**INTERESTING FACT:**  
Spotted Knapweed produces its own natural herbicide called "catechin" that eradicates plants all around it.

First Stage of Growth (below)  
Spotted Knapweed Steve Dewey, Utah State University

Flower (below)  
Spotted Knapweed Matt Lavin, Flickr



ALWAYS USE GLOVES  
PULLING  
CAN BE  
EFFECTIVE!

**GROWTH AND SIZE:**  
Ranges from 2" to 4' tall.

**EARLY GROWTH STAGE :**  
The rosettes are grayish-green in color with oblong leaves that are up to six inches in length and covered with a layer of fine hairs.

**LATE GROWTH STAGE :**  
Pink to purple bachelor button-looking flowers, bracts with black tips directly under the flowerhead and deeply lobed lower leaves with fine, cobweb-type hairs.



## HOUNDSTONGUE

**BLOOMS:**  
June-July

**INTERESTING FACT:**  
Toxic to livestock if ingested due to an alkaloid that causes loss of production of liver cells.

First Stage of Growth (below)  
Houndstongue Joseph M. DiTomaso, University of California-Davis, Bugwood.org



Flower (left)  
Houndstongue Matt Lavin, Flickr



**GROWTH AND SIZE:**  
Can grow up to 4' tall.  
Leaves up to 12" long, 3" wide.

**EARLY GROWTH STAGE :**  
Forms a rosette and a deep tap root that is thick and black.

**LATE GROWTH STAGE :**  
A flowering stem is formed; reddish-purple flowers bloom with small nutlets that are covered with tiny hooked barbs that can attach to clothing and fur, seeds are set and then the plant dies.



**PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE**  
Purple Loosestrife Gary A. Monro, USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database



**YELLOWFLAG IRIS**

## NEW INVADERS TO REPORT

It's important to report new infestations of these two recent invaders because noxious weeds can crowd out native vegetation.

To report these invaders on the trail, please take a picture and email it to: [weeds@cascadecd.com](mailto:weeds@cascadecd.com) and do your part to protect the Rivers Edge trail system for future generations!



## DALMATION TOADFLAX

**BLOOMS:**  
July-September

**INTERESTING FACT:**  
Seeds can remain viable for up to ten years and each plant can produce up to 500,000 seeds annually.

First Stage of Growth (below)  
Dalmatian Toadflax Linda Wilson, University of Idaho, Bugwood.org



Flower (below)



**GROWTH AND SIZE:**  
Taproot depths of 10', lateral roots up to 12' long.  
Stems up to 4' tall.

**EARLY GROWTH STAGE :**  
Woody stems that are often a blue-green in color with heart-shaped leaves, both of which have a waxy coating.

**LATE GROWTH STAGE :**  
Blooms pale to bright yellow flowers with orange throats about 1" long with a long, downward spur.

## OTHER COMMON NOXIOUS WEEDS



**FIELD BINDWEED**



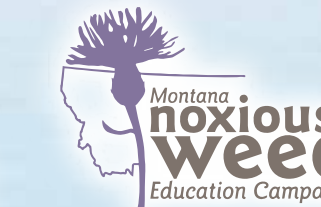
**CANADIAN THISTLE**



**LEAFY SPURGE**



**WHITETOP**



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