

To learn more about noxious weeds and noxious weed control in Island County, please contact:



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2025 ISLAND COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED LIST



Lesser Celandine
Ficaria verna

Class B regulated weed in Island County

*The control of
noxious weeds is
a community effort*

WHAT ARE NOXIOUS WEEDS?

Noxious weeds are non-native plants that are highly destructive, competitive, and difficult to control. They can reduce crop yields, destroy native plant and animal habitat, damage recreational areas, clog waterways, lower land values, and poison humans and livestock.

WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

People have introduced non-native species both intentionally, such as in gardens or for erosion control, or accidentally, such as in contaminated seed mixes, hay, aquarium plants, or other materials. A small number of these introduced species have turned out to be highly invasive and damaging. Noxious weeds now occur in all parts of Island County.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS OF NOXIOUS WEEDS?

Each year, these plants cost Washington State millions of dollars in lost agricultural production, environmental degradation, and maintenance costs. Once invasive plants become established, it is very expensive to eradicate them. In natural areas, it may not even be feasible to remove them once they take hold.

WHAT IS THE NOXIOUS WEED LAW?

Washington's noxious weed law (RCW 17.10) requires landowners - including city, county and state land agencies - to control or eradicate certain noxious weeds that occur on their property. The county noxious weed program is available to provide information on identification and control methods. Landowners can choose the control method they feel is most appropriate for their property.

Noxious weeds affect everyone. Weeds do not obey property lines and jurisdictional boundaries. It takes a coordinated effort to prevent new noxious weeds from establishing and to control and eradicate the weeds already here. The noxious weed law provides a way to effectively stop the spread of the new and most damaging weeds.

WHICH WEEDS SHOULD BE CONTROLLED?

To help protect the State's resources and economy, the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board adopts a state noxious weed list each year (WAC 16-750) that categorizes weeds as Class A, B, or C based on distribution in the state, abundance, and level of threat (how dangerous the plant is to humans, animals, private and public lands, and native habitats). Each county weed board then passes a county weed list that specifies which weeds landowners are required to control in that county. The county list includes at minimum all Class A weeds and those Class B and C weeds that landowners are required to control in that county, and sometimes additional weeds that are recommended for control.

Weeds of Concern

The following plant species are not listed as noxious weeds under state law and property owners are not required to control them. However, the Island County Noxious Weed Control Board recognizes these non-native plants as invasive, recommends control or containment of existing populations, and discourages new plantings.

Common Name	Scientific Name
Yellow Bush Lupine	<i>Lupinus arboreus</i>



Spotted knapweed flower, *Centaurea stoebe* a class B regulated noxious weed in Island County

2025

Island County

Noxious Weed List

Regulated Class A Weeds

These weeds are the highest priority in the state due to their significant potential impact and limited distribution. Property owners throughout Washington are required to eradicate Class A weeds.

Common Name	Scientific Name
common crupina	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>
cordgrass, common	<i>Spartina anglica</i>
cordgrass, denseflowered	<i>Spartina densiflora</i>
cordgrass, saltmeadow	<i>Spartina patens</i>
cordgrass, smooth	<i>Spartina alterniflora</i>
dyer's woad	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>
South American spongeplant	<i>Limnobium laevigatum</i>
eggleaf spurge	<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>
false brome	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>
floating primrose-willow	<i>Ludwigia peploides</i>
flowering rush	<i>Butomus unbellatus</i>
French broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>
garlic mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
giant hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>
goatsrue	<i>Galega officinalis</i>
hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>
Johnsongrass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>
knapweed, bighead	<i>Centaurea macrocephala</i>
knapweed, Vochin	<i>Centaurea nigrescens</i>
kudzu	<i>Pueraria montana</i> var. <i>lobata</i>
meadow clary	<i>Salvia pratensis</i>
Palmer amaranth	<i>Amaranthus palmeri</i>
oriental clematis	<i>Clematis orientalis</i>
purple starthistle	<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>
Ravenna grass	<i>Tripidium ravennae</i>
reed sweetgrass	<i>Glyceria maxima</i>
ricefield bulrush	<i>Schoenoplectus mucronatus</i>
roundleaf bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>
sage, clary	<i>Salvia sclarea</i>
sage, Mediterranean	<i>Salvia aethiopis</i>
silverleaf nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>
Small flowered jewelweed	<i>Impatiens parviflora</i>
Spanish broom	<i>Spartium junceum</i>
Syrian beancaper	<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>
Texas blueweed	<i>Helianthus ciliaris</i>
thistle, Italian	<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>
thistle, marsh	<i>Cirsium palustre</i>
thistle, milk	<i>Silybum Marianum</i>
thistle, slenderflower	<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>
thistle, Turkish	<i>Carduus cinereus</i>
variable-leaf milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i> x <i>M. hippuroides</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
yellow starthistle	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>

Regulated Class B Weeds

Class B noxious weeds are regulated in counties where they are limited in distribution or where they are a local priority. The following Class B weeds have been designated for control in Island County by the State Weed Board or selected by the Island County Weed Board. Property owners in Island County are required to control these species.

Common Name	Scientific Name
blueweed	<i>Echium vulgare</i>
Brazilian elodea	<i>Egeria densa</i>
bugloss, annual	<i>Lycopsis arvensis</i>
bugloss, common	<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>
camelthorn	<i>Alhagi maurorum</i>
common fennel, (except bulbing fennel)	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i> (except <i>F. vulgare</i> var. <i>azoricum</i>)
common reed (non-native genotypes)	<i>Phragmites australis</i>
Dalmatian toadflax	<i>Linaria dalmatica</i> ssp. <i>dalmatica</i>
European Coltsfoot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>
Eurasian watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
fanwort	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>
gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
grass-leaved arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria graminea</i>
hairy willowherb	<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>
Hanging Sedge	<i>Carex pendula</i> ssp. <i>pendula</i> and ssp. <i>agastachys</i>
hawkweed, oxtongue	<i>Picris hieracioides</i>
hawkweed, orange	<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>
hawkweeds: All nonnative species and hybrids of the meadow subgenus	<i>Hieracium</i> , subgenus <i>Pilosella</i>
hawkweeds: All nonnative species and hybrids of the wall subgenus	<i>Hieracium</i> , subgenus <i>Hieracium</i>
hoary alyssum	<i>Berteroa incana</i>
houndstongue	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>
indigobush	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>
knapweed, black	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
knapweed, brown	<i>Centaurea jacea</i>
knapweed, diffuse	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>
knapweed, meadow	<i>Centaurea x gerstlaueri</i>
knapweed, Russian	<i>Rhaponticum repens</i>
knapweed, spotted	<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>
knotweed, Bohemian	<i>Fallopia x bohemicum</i>
knotweed, giant	<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i>
knotweed, Himalayan	<i>Persicaria wallichii</i>
knotweed, Japanese	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>
kochia	<i>Bassia scoparia</i>
Lesser celandine	<i>Ficaria verna</i>
loosestrife, garden	<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>
loosestrife, purple	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
loosestrife, wand	<i>Lythrum virgatum</i>
Malta starthistle	<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>

REGULATED CLASS B WEEDS (continued)

Common Name	Scientific Name
parrotfeather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>
perennial pepperweed	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>
poison hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>
policeman's helmet	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>
puncturevine	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>
rough chervil	<i>Chaerophyllum temulum</i>
rush skeletonweed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>
saltcedar	<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>
shiny geranium	<i>Geranium lucidum</i>
Spurge Flax	<i>Thymelaea passerina</i>
spurge laurel	<i>Daphne laureola</i>
spurge, leafy	<i>Euphorbia virgata</i>
spurge, myrtle	<i>Euphorbia myrsinoides</i>
sulfur cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla recta</i>
tansy ragwort	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>
thistle, musk	<i>Carduus nutans</i>
thistle, plumeless	<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>
thistle, Scotch	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>
velvetleaf	<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>
water primrose	<i>Ludwigia hexapetala</i>
white bryony	<i>Bryonia alba</i>
wild basil	<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>
wild chervil	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>
yellow archangel	<i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i>
yellow floating heart	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>
yellow nutsedge	<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>

NON-REGULATED NOXIOUS WEEDS (continued)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Class
common catsear	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	C
common groundsel	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	C
common St. Johnwort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	C
common tansy	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	B
common teasel	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	C
curly pondweed	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	C
English hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	C
English Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	C
English ivy - four cultivars only	<i>Hedera helix</i> 'Baltica', 'Pittsburgh', and 'Star'; <i>H. hibernica</i> 'Hibernica'	C
Eurasian Watermilfoil Hybrid	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i> x <i>M. sibiricum</i>	C
evergreen blackberry	<i>Rubus laciniatus</i>	C
field bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	C
fragrant waterlily	<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	C
Green alkanet	<i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i>	C
hairy whitetop	<i>Lepidium appelianum</i>	C
herb-Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	B
Himalayan blackberry	<i>Rubus bifrons</i>	C
hoary cress	<i>Lepidium draba</i>	C
Italian arum	<i>Arum italicum</i>	C
Japanese eelgrass	<i>Nanozostera japonica</i>	C
jointed goatgrass	<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i>	C
jubata grass	<i>Cortaderia jubata</i>	C
lawnweed	<i>Soliva sessilis</i>	C
longspine sandbur	<i>Cenchrus longispinus</i>	C
medusahead	<i>Taeniamatherum caput-medusae</i>	C
nonnative cattail species and hybrids	<i>Typha</i> spp.	C
old-man's-beard	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	C
oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	C
pampas grass	<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	C
perennial sowthistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i> ssp. <i>arvensis</i>	C
reed canarygrass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	C
Russian olive	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	C
scentless mayweed	<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	C
Scotch broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	B
smoothseed alfalfa dodder	<i>Cuscuta approximata</i>	C
spikeweed	<i>Centromadia pungens</i>	C
spiny cocklebur	<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>	C
spotted jewelweed	<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	C
Swainsonpea	<i>Sphaerophysa salsula</i>	C
tree-of-heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	C
ventenata	<i>Ventenata dubia</i>	C
white cockle	<i>Silene latifolia</i>	C
wild carrot to exclude subsp. <i>sativus</i> (garden carrot) grown commercially or for food	<i>Daucus carota</i>	C
yellowflag iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	C
yellow toadflax	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	C