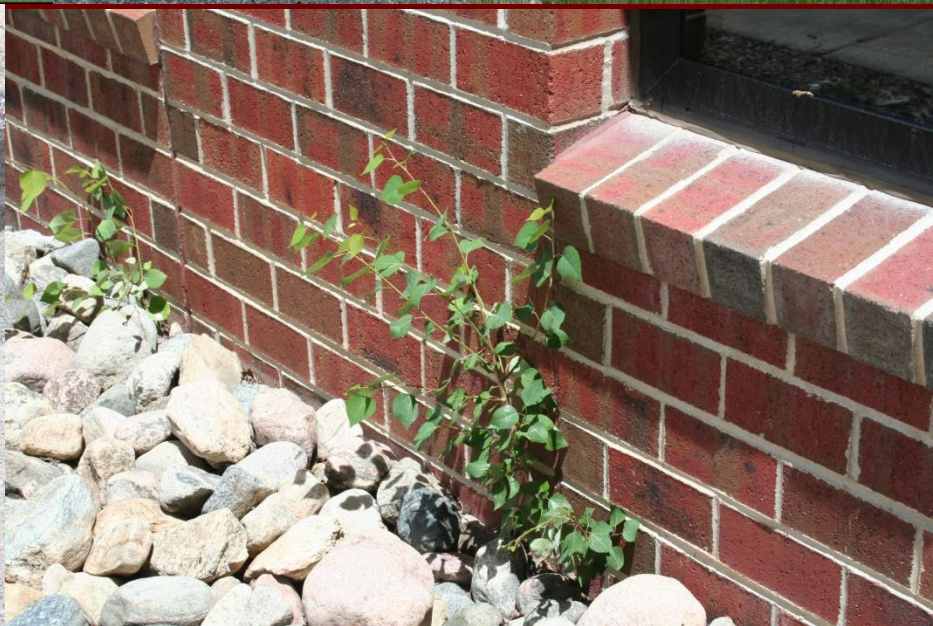


Grand County Noxious Weeds

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County Division of Natural Resources



Weeds?

Colorado Noxious Weed Act

- Became law in 1995
- State declared that noxious weeds are a threat to natural resources of CO
- Classified noxious weeds into 3 categories
 - List A species: “new to area”, subject to eradication
 - List B species: discrete distributions subject to eradication, containment, or suppression
 - List C species: widespread, control is recommended by state but left to local entity to decide
 - Watchlist: Those that are potential invaders

State Listed Species found in Grand County

- 2 "A" list species
 - Orange hawkweed – Grand Lake area and the Fraser Valley
 - Cypress spurge – only one known population in Granby area, thought to be eradicated
- 21 "B" list species
- 4 "C" list species



What We Are Protecting



First Steps

- Proper ID of plant
- Know Life Cycle of plant
 - Annual – germinates, flowers, seeds and dies in one growing season
 - Biennial – germinates, vegetative for a year, overwinters, then flowers and seeds in year 2, then dies.
 - Perennial – germinates and grows, may or may not set seed first year. Does not die back but comes back each year from same root stock (Simple perennials and Creeping perennials)

Life cycle matters to treatment options

Why Life Cycles Matter

- Annuals and Biennials – can generally be controlled by pulling, digging or with herbicide. Usually a taproot or fibrous, shallow root system
- Perennials – can be more challenging
 - Simple – only spreads by seed, most have a taproot
 - Creeping – spread by root fragments, runners, rhizomes or by seed

Grand County's Top 5 Common Noxious Weeds

West Grand

- Musk thistle
- Canada thistle
- Houndstongue
- Whitetop
- Cheatgrass

East Grand

- Scentless chamomile
- Oxeye daisy
- Musk thistle
- Canada thistle
- Cheatgrass

Musk thistle flowers

Noxious



Musk thistle

Noxious



Canada thistle



Noxious



Canada
thistle

Noxious





Daisy Comparison

Chamomile



Oxeye



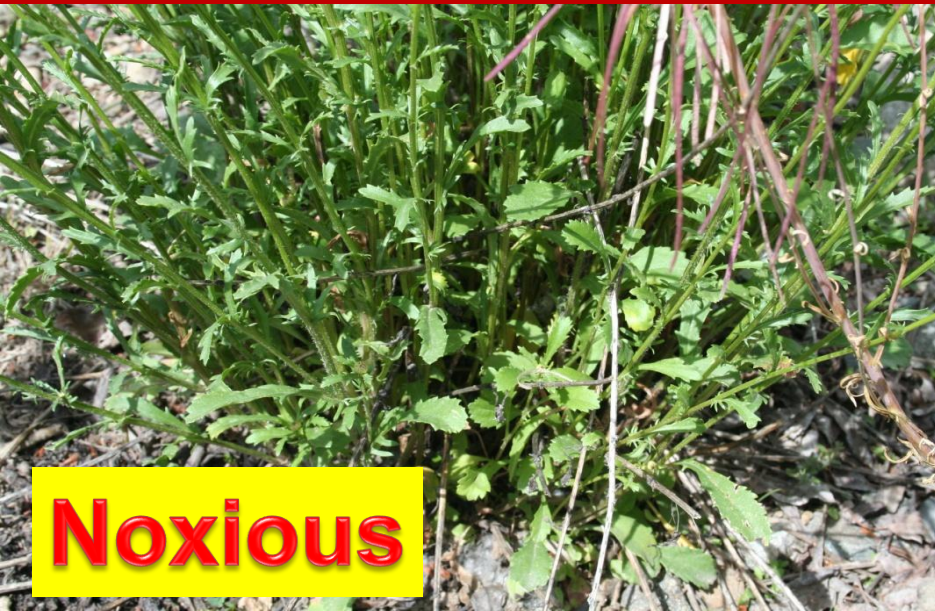
Shasta



Noxious

Noxious

Oxeye daisy



Shasta daisy



Chamomile

Pineapple Weed



Chamomile



Noxious

Houndstongue



Field pennycress



Whitetop/Hoary cress



Cheatgrass



Other weeds found

- Common mullein
- Knapweeds
- Leafy spurge
- Orange hawkweed

Common mullein

Noxious



- Biennial
- Fuzzy leaves
- Yellow flowers

Green gentian



Common mullein



Noxious

Green gentian



Common Mullein

Noxious

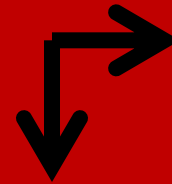


Noxious



← Diffuse ↑
Knapweed

Purple
Aster



Leafy spurge



- Creeping perennial
- Milky sap
- Limited populations in Grand County

Orange Hawkweed



Noxious

Native agoseris



How to Avoid Weed Infestation

- Don't disturb ground!
- Re-seed with a recommended mix
 - Go to reputable dealer
 - Follow seeding guidelines from dealer
 - Generally done in fall after first or second freeze
- Natural revegetation
 - Must be vigilant on weed control
 - Important to ID seedlings

Grand County Weed Program

- Herbicide Give-away
 - Fridays, starting end of May thru September;
8 am to 1 pm
 - Must bring own sprayer
 - Target is regular homeowner/small acreage –
limit of 4 gallons per visit

More Information

- County website:
co.grand.co.us/140/Noxious-Weeds
- Other sources:
 - CSU Extension/Master Gardner's
 - NRCS
 - Colorado Dept. of Agriculture
 - Colorado Weed Management Association

Conclusion

- Weeds are opportunistic and “jump” at the chance to establish
- Be aware of what is “normal” in the landscape
- Constant vigilance!
- Use your sources!

Questions?

