

Butterfly bush is native to Asia and was introduced into the United States as an ornamental. It escaped gardens and landscapes and has now colonized along our streams and waterways. One plant can produce up to 3 million winged seeds. The main dispersal method is by wind or water and seeds can remain dormant for many years.

Seedling can be drought tolerant and can survive along rocky stream corridors. Growth of seedling is very rapid and can cover large areas along our lakes, rivers, creeks and ditches.

This plant is considered deciduous, as it becomes dormant in the winter.



Where to get more information on Noxious Weeds:

Washington State Noxious Weed
Control Board

1111 Washington St.
Olympia, WA 98504-2560
(360)902-2053

Website:
<http://nwcb.wa.gov>

Washington State Department of
Agriculture

1111 Washington St.
Olympia, WA 98504-2560
<http://www.agr.wa.gov>

WSU Extension Office;
Cowlitz County
1946 3rd Avenue
Longview, WA 98632
(360)577-3014

Cowlitz County
Noxious Weed Control Board
Administration Annex Bldg.
207 Fourth Avenue N.
(360) 577-3117

<http://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/noxiousweeds/>

Butterfly bush *Buddleja davidii*



Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board

Administration Annex Bldg. 1st Floor
207 Fourth Avenue N.
Kelso, WA 98626
(360)577-3117
(360)425-7760

Biological Control

Currently there no biological insects in place to combat this invasive noxious weed.

Beneficial insects are being tested in New Zealand, but no insects have yet been approved for use in the U.S.



Many people have planted this attractive genus in their gardens as it is a magnet for butterflies and bees. We are encouraging the public to plant native alternatives like: **California lilac, Ceanothus, Victoria, Dark Star, Julia Phelps, and/or Blue mist.**

Integrated Pest Management Control Measures:

Mechanical:

- **Cutting** plants is not effective, unless it is followed by a herbicide treatment on the cut stumps.
- **Digging** plants is not recommended due to soil disturbance increasing the likelihood of new seedling sprouting.

Cultural:

- **Grazing** has been shown to be effective in controlling surface plant mass only. Goats can be used to consume surface vegetation.
- **Vegetation competition** can reduce establishment of invasive species, but alone, it will not completely control establishment of noxious weeds.

Biological:

- There are no biological controls in place for this noxious weed at this time.

Chemical:

Spring to fall foliar spray – Best when applied to growing plants but before flower sets

Garlon 3 A and 4, Escort, Roundup Pro, Arsenal or Habitat*

Aquatic label use; requires an aquatic licensed applicator to apply near water

Check each chemical label for proper use, application restrictions and relevant information