

Blackberry

Himalayan - *Rubus discolor*
Evergreen - *Rubus laciniatus*



Why is blackberry a problem?

Non-native blackberry out-competes native vegetation and prevents the establishment of native plants and trees that require sun for healthy growth. Blackberry forms impenetrable thickets that block access to waterways and lacks the deep bank-stabilizing roots of native wetland shrubs and trees.

Blackberry grows in a wide range of conditions, including disturbed areas, pastures, forest plantations, roadsides, riparian areas, riverbanks and wetland edges.

Flowers can be self-pollinated. The plant reproduces both by seed and vegetatively by sprouting root buds and root development on canes.



Evergreen blackberry - *Rubus laciniatus*

Recognizing non-native blackberry

Non-native blackberry is an upright or creeping perennial shrub with sharp stiff thorns on woody stems. Plants grow up to 13 feet in height with flowers in clusters of five to 20. Each flower, which range from white to pink in color, has five petals.



Himalayan blackberry - *Rubus discolor*

Controlling noxious weeds on your property is your responsibility and the law.
Chapter 17.10 RCW, County Code Title 7

YOU can help stop the spread of noxious weeds

- Report infestations
 - Actively control noxious weeds on your property
 - Contact Clark County's Vegetation Management Program for more information on species ID and recommended control methods
 - Spread the word about noxious weeds, and why controlling them is so important
- Remember, weeds are everyone's problem. Controlling noxious weeds on your property is your responsibility and the law.

Online Resources

Clark County Noxious Weed Program
www.clark.wa.gov/weed

Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
www.nwcb.wa.gov

Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System
Mobile App: www.eddmaps.org/west

Scan this QR code to download



For more information:
Vegetation Management Program
(360) 397-6140
email: weed.management@clark.wa.gov

For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office:
Voice (360) 397-2322, **Relay** 711 or (800) 833-6388,
Fax (360) 397-6165, **E-mail** ADA@clark.wa.gov.



Clark County Public Works
Vegetation Management
(360) 397-2121
www.clark.wa.gov/environment



Why control noxious weeds in Clark County?

Noxious weeds are non-native plants that can be toxic, destructive, competitive and difficult to control once established.

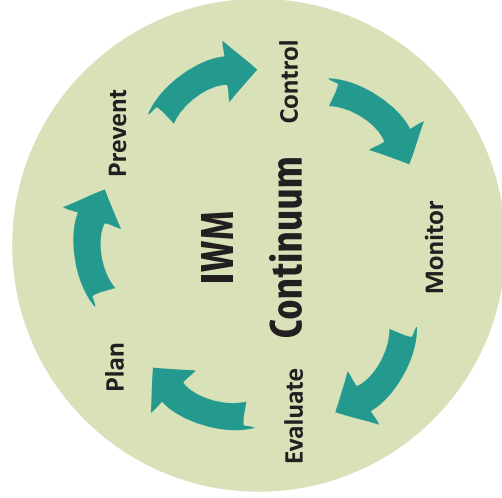
Economics - Noxious weeds cost the United States on average 30.6 billion dollars each year in decreased land value, money and time spent in control efforts, lower crop yields, reduced forage quality and impacts on animal health.

Environmental health - Noxious weeds displace native species, destroy natural habitat, clog waterways and increase erosion and fire risk.

Human & animal health - Many noxious weeds are toxic to humans and livestock. Contact or ingestion of some species can lead to serious health problems or death.

Recreation - Noxious weeds hurt recreation opportunities such as bird watching and fishing through reduced accessibility and destruction of native landscapes.

Integrated Weed Management (IWM)



An Integrated Weed Management plan is an ongoing, continuing cycle of weed prevention, control, monitoring, evaluation and planning

Managing weeds with Integrated Weed Management

The most effective way to manage weed infestations is to use a combination of control methods specific to the problem weed, where it is in its growth-cycle, and the location where it is growing. This approach is called integrated weed management, or IWM, which uses biological, mechanical, cultural, and chemical (herbicide) control methods that treat the problem weed yet protect human health, habitat, water, and other natural resources.

Prevention is better than control - The best control method of all is to prevent weeds in the first place. IWM starts with understanding the soil, water, natural resources and human impacts and uses on a site. For example, weeds often invade due to overgrazing, bare soil, or other factors that should be corrected for the control measures to be fully effective.

Long-term more effective management useful approaches the effort is not a practice

IWM control recommendations for blackberry

IWM control type	Control method	Effectiveness of control method							
		Small/backyard site			large/rural site				
		Good	Fair	Poor	N/A	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A
Physical & mechanical	digging		●						
	hand-pulling				●				
	mowing			●				●	
	tilling			●				●	
Cultural	bark mulch								●
	black plastic								●
	cover crop			●				●	
	native plant restoration			●				●	
Biological	soil amendment								●
	managed grazing			●				●	
	weed-feeding insects								●
	Product examples*								
Chemical	aminopyralid					●			
	glyphosate					●			
	triclopyr amine					●			

* Brand names are listed as an example only. Other commercial products may contain the listed chemical control. Clark County does not endorse any product or brand name. Always read and follow the herbicide label. For more information on specific herbicides, please contact Vegetation Management.