

Have you seen this invasive plant?

Poison hemlock is a member of the carrot family that grows to 8 feet tall.

All parts of the plant are **extremely poisonous** to humans and livestock.

Learn more at www.nwcb.wa.gov



Poison hemlock forms a basal rosette the first year. The second year it produces a tall stem with dark green, glossy, fern-like leaves (above, left) and flat-topped clusters of small, white, 5-petaled flowers (above, right). The toxins give the plant, especially crushed leaves, a smell that resembles mouse urine.

The stem is smooth and has distinctive purplish blotches.

Poison hemlock contains toxic compounds that make the entire plant: seeds, leaves, stem, and root poisonous to humans and livestock.

Why is poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*) a noxious weed?

- Poison hemlock is **extremely toxic** to humans and livestock. This invasive plant rapidly colonizes pastures and streambanks, displacing desirable native or forage species with poisonous plants. Unfortunately, it is sometimes mistaken for edible members of the carrot or parsley family, which can be fatal.

Where do you find poison hemlock?

- Poison hemlock is found growing along streambanks, pastures, vacant lots, and roadsides throughout Washington State.

What can you do?

- Learn to correctly identify this Class B noxious weed.
- Control of this toxic, noxious weed is required in many counties; however, we encourage everyone to control it. Your county noxious weed control board, WSU Extension office, or Conservation District can help you identify and safely control poison hemlock.
- Report any sightings to your county noxious weed control board or to noxiousweeds@agr.wa.gov.

