



Invasive Species Prohibited Plant List

The introduction of non-native, invasive plant species on City lands has had increasing environmental and financial impacts. Every year the City of Eugene has continued to prioritize the restoration and renovation of sensitive habitat areas such as the West Eugene Wetlands, Hendricks Park Forest, Whilamut Natural Area of Alton Baker Park, Ridgeline Trail, and Spencer and Skinner buttes. Still invasive plants are frequently found out-competing our native species, threatening food, habitat and genetic diversity of plants and wildlife.

In an effort to halt the intentional introduction of invasive species and to promote the re-introduction of native species, the City has a policy that prohibits the use of the most problematic and documented invasive species, discourages the planting of other species that are suspected to be problematic, and encourages the use of native plants on all City-owned lands and projects.

The following plants have been determined highly invasive and may not be planted or utilized on City property or City projects.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes	Reference
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway maple	Invasive tree spreading into forested natural areas around town including Skinner's Butte.	3, 4
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	tree-of-heaven	Invasive tree that is problematic in City parks, alleys, and undeveloped property. This species is capable of becoming established through cracks in concrete.	2, 3, 4
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	garlic mustard	One of the most invasive forest understory plants in the east and midwest, starting to establish in the Seattle area. Documented as present in Portland and Eugene.	1, 4
<i>Arum italicum</i>	Italian arum	Invasive plant starting to establish. Documented as present in Portland and Eugene.	4
<i>Betula pendula/pubescens</i>	European birch	This species is spreading rapidly along waterways and is now established along the entirety of Amazon Creek from near its headwaters to Fern Ridge Reservoir.	2, 4
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	false-brome	Highly invasive grass rapidly spreading through forests and along rivers in our	1, 2, 3, 4

		area in numerous places including Alton Baker Park. It has the potential to permanently alter the forest understory, as it outcompetes most other species and no control is known.	
<i>Buddleia alternifolia</i> <i>B. davidii</i> <i>B. varabilis</i>	butterfly bush	Both butterfly bushes displace native willows which are essential host plants for native butterflies.	1, 4
<i>Carex pendula</i>	drooping sedge	Invasive plant starting to establish. Documented as present in Portland and Eugene.	4
<i>Carex divulsa</i>	grassland sedge	Invasive plant starting to establish. Common in the nursery trade, being sold as <i>Carex tumulicola</i> , documented as present in Portland and Eugene.	
<i>Centaurea pratensis</i>	meadow knapweed	Tall perennial found along roadsides, fields and pastures. This is the only knapweed common in our area. There is a large population in West Eugene along Fir Butte Road and on surrounding properties.	1, 4
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada thistle	This thistle propagates rhizomonously from deep and extensive horizontal roots making it challenging to control. It can be found along roadsides and in disturbed natural areas throughout the region.	1, 4
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	bull thistle	This biennial thistle has a short, fleshy taproot. This spiny thistle can be found throughout the area in disturbed areas, along roadsides, and pastures.	1, 4
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	traveler's-joy	Invasive climber comparable to English ivy as a problem in areas of Portland and Seattle. Currently appearing in several areas along the Willamette with large populations established on Skinner Butte.	1, 2, 3, 4
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	poison hemlock	Widespread invader along the Willamette River corridor. This plant is toxic and can cause skin irritation when touched.	1, 4
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	field bindweed	Common in gardens; seen in some natural areas such as Willow Creek Natural Area	4
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	English hawthorn	This species is well established and spreading rapidly into woodlands and prairies throughout town. It interbreeds with the native hawthorn creating hybrids that are difficult to accurately identify.	2, 4

<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	common houndstongue	This common garden species has escaped and appears regularly in several City parks, along waterways and in unimproved alleys.	2, 3
<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>	yellow nutsedge	Invasive plant starting to establish. Documented as present in Portland and Eugene.	1
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> <i>C. striatus</i>	Scotch broom Portuguese broom	Dense populations of Scotch broom have established along the Willamette, in the south hills, throughout the West Eugene Wetlands, along roadways and railways and in several city parks. Other broom species have also been found in Eugene. Avoid use of all brooms.	1, 2, 3, 4
<i>Genista monspessulana</i> <i>Spartium junceum</i>	French broom Spanish broom		
<i>Daphne laureola</i>	spurge laurel	Spread by birds into forested areas throughout town.	2, 4
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	common teasel	Invasive plant starting to establish. Documented as present in Portland and Eugene.	4
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	foxglove	This common and attractive garden wild flower escapes easily and forms dense populations. It is becoming well established in some areas along the Willamette River.	2
<i>Fallopia spp.</i> (formerly <i>Polygonum spp.</i>)	knotweeds	These species (<i>F. japonica</i> , <i>F. bohemica</i> , <i>F. sachalinensis</i>) form riparian monocultures and are very hard to eradicate. There are several small populations in Eugene, but much larger ones in other locations around the county and state.	1, 2, 4
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	South side Skinner Butte and North side of Willamette River. Extensive on south coast and northern California	3, 4
<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	shining crane's-bill	Beginning to dominate forest understories in south Eugene.	1, 4
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	herb robert	Dominates forest understories in several areas in Eugene including Hendrick's park. This species is spreading rapidly throughout town.	1, 2, 3, 4
<i>Hedera helix</i> <i>H. hibernica</i>	English ivy Atlantic ivy	Both species spread vegetatively in forested and open areas. Seeds spread mostly by exotic birds including starlings. Ivy is an extensive and widespread problem throughout Eugene, especially in	1, 2, 4

		forested areas and along the Willamette River.	
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	St. John's wort	This species invades meadows, trailsides, roadsides, and other areas throughout town.	1, 2, 3
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	English holly	Spread by birds and appears regularly in forest understories throughout town.	2, 4
<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	policeman's helmet	This species is not known in Eugene yet, but could invade riparian and wetland habitats, if introduced.	1, 3, 4
<i>Iris pseudoacorus</i>	yellow flag iris	Forms monocultures in wetlands. This species has established in Bertelsen Slough, Amazon Creek, Flat Creek, Spring Creek and along the Willamette River.	1, 3, 4
<i>Juncus effusus var effusus</i>	common rush	Invasive plant starting to establish. Common in the nursery trade, being sold as <i>Juncus Effusus var pacificus</i> , documented as present in Portland and Eugene	
<i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i>	Yellow archangel	This European native mint thrives in forest understory habitat and seems to spread mostly via yard debris dumping	1, 4
<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	sweet, perennial or everlasting pea	Well-established, primarily along roadsides and hedgerows, large population on Chamber's connector. Listed in "Weeds of the West"	1
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	oxeye daisy	This species is common in commercial "wildflower mixes". It has become widely established in meadows in West Eugene, Amazon Park, and along roadsides and mowed waterways. Formerly <i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i> .	2, 4
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	yellow toadflax	Roadside weed expanding into prairies.	1, 2,
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	birdsfoot trefoil	Sold in pasture mixes. This species has invaded wetland areas throughout town including most drainage channels.	2, 4
<i>Ludwigia hexapetala</i> <i>L. peploides</i> <i>L. grandiflora</i>	water primrose	Aggressive aquatic weed that forms a dense floating mass in ponds, lakes, and slow moving water bodies. All fragments of the plant can resprout. Found locally in Golden Gardens ponds, Delta Ponds, and Spring Creek.	3, 4

<i>Lssimachia nummularia</i>	creeping jenny	Invasive plant starting to establish. Documented as present in Portland and Eugene.	4
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	purple loosestrife	This species forms monocultures in wetlands and is a species of national concern. Although not yet widespread, populations have been found in Amazon Creek, Delta Ponds, and along the Willamette River.	1, 2, 4
<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	yellow floating heart	Aggressive aquatic weed that forms a dense floating mass in ponds, lakes, and slow moving water bodies. This species is very difficult to control once established and is found north of Eugene near the River Ridge Golf Course.	1, 3
<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	pennyroyal	Widespread in West Eugene Wetlands and other areas with emergent wetlands.	3, 4
<i>Myriophyllum spp.</i>	Eurasian watermilfoil, parrot's feather	Includes water-milfoils. Myriophyllum aquaticum (M. brasiliense; parrot's feather) and M. spicatum (Eurasian milfoil) are common aquatic species in waterways and ponds throughout Eugene.	1, 2
<i>Phalaris aquatica</i>	Harding grass	This wetland species is found in slightly drier conditions than P. arundinacea. While populations are not yet as widespread as P. arundinacea, populations are rapidly expanding.	2
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	reed canarygrass	This species forms dense monocultures and is one of the most widespread species in all types of wetlands throughout Eugene. It permanently and dramatically effects ecosystems where it has become established. This species is still sold commercially.	2
<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	American pokeweed	This species has shown up in the Eugene area and has been invasive in other parts of the country. The fleshy purple berries and roots are toxic.	2, 3
<i>Polygonum spp.</i> (see <i>Fallopia spp.</i>)	knotweeds		
<i>Populus alba</i>	white poplar	This species spreads rapidly via suckers and is difficult to remove once established. It also quickly becomes a hazard tree as the brittle branches are prone to breakage. This species is found in several City parks including Alton Baker Park.	2, 4

<i>Potentilla recta</i>	sulphur cinquefoil	Not easily distinguished from native <i>Potentilla gracilis</i> ; it was sold inadvertently at a local native nursery and may be established here. Is very invasive in eastern Oregon and Idaho	1, 2, 4
<i>Prunus avium</i>	sweet cherry	This species is spread by birds into forested areas and is a quite common understory invader in forested areas throughout Eugene.	2, 4
<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	thundercloud plum	Grafted species and rootstocks that sucker and flower, produce fruit which is spread easily by birds. This species is appearing in prairie areas in West Eugene and woodland edges throughout town.	
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> <i>P. lusitanica</i>	English and Portugal laurels	These common evergreen hedges are spread by birds and appear regularly in forested understories, especially at Skinner Butte, Morse Ranch, and Hendricks Park.	2, 4
<i>Prunus mahaleb</i>	mahaleb cherry	Birds spread seeds of this species, which is common in the understories of forested areas and woodland edges throughout town.	2
<i>Pueraria montana</i> <i>var. lobata</i>	kudzu	While populations have not been found in Eugene, two occurrences have been noted in the Willamette Valley. This species has devastated plant communities in southern and eastern states.	1
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	lesser celandine	Highly invasive in Hendricks Park and Mt. Pisgah Arboretum. Smaller populations have recently been found in Tugman Park and upper Amazon. Once established, populations are extremely difficult to control.	3, 4
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	creeping buttercup	This species is allelopathic. It forms large monocultures, especially in moist areas. It is common in many of our parks including Tugman Park.	4
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	black locust	Widely escaped east of Cascades, beginning to naturalize on West Side (Portland area, Benton County, Lane County.) This species can form woodland monocultures.	2, 4
<i>Rosa eglanteria</i>	sweet-briar	This species easily invades prairie areas and is common throughout town especially in West Eugene.	2, 4

<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	multiflowered rose	This species, similar to <i>R. eglantaria</i> , is a common problem in west Eugene wetlands and Fern Ridge Wildlife Area.	4
<i>Rubus armeniacus</i> <i>R. vestitus</i>	Armenian and European blackberry	Two of the most widespread exotic species in the Pacific Northwest. Populations are well established in all plant communities throughout Eugene.	1, 2, 3
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	milk thistle	Invasive plant starting to establish. Documented as present in Portland and Eugene.	1, 4
<i>Vinca major</i>	periwinkle; vinca	Mostly near old homesites -- they appear to spread vegetatively only. Completely dominates understories.	4
<i>Vinca minor</i>	periwinkle; vinca	Mostly near old homesites -- they appear to spread vegetatively only. Completely dominates understories.	4

References

1. Oregon Department of Agriculture, Oregon's Noxious Weed Policy, <http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/shared/Documents/Publications/Weeds/NoxiousWeedPolicyClassification.pdf>
2. Pacific Northwest Invasive Plant Council, Preliminary List of Invasive Plants of Greatest Ecological Concern in Oregon and Washington <http://depts.washington.edu/waipc/pnwnoxiousweedlist.shtml>
3. City of Eugene staff recommendation based on resources utilized to remove from parks, open spaces and waterways. For more information see <https://www.eugene-or.gov/648/Native-and-Invasive-Plant-Policies>
4. City of Portland, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, Nuisance Plants List <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/citycode/article/322280>