

# CACHE COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL PROGRAM

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## **A. STATEMENT OF INTENT**

The Cache County Noxious weed control program will function and enforce in accordance with the State of Utah Noxious Weed Act and Cache County code section 8:28 to organize, supervise, and coordinate a noxious weed control plan for Cache County including chemical, mechanical, and biological control practices.

## **B. ANNUAL COORDINATION MEETINGS**

The County Weed Control Board shall hold an annual coordination meeting each year prior to the start of the weed season. All organizations concerned with weed control will be invited to have a representative in attendance including the following agencies: Utah Department of Transportation, U.S. Forest Service, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, State Trust Lands, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, Cache County Extension, Union Pacific Railroad, PacifiCorp, Dominion Energy, irrigation companies and municipalities. Cache County personnel including Vegetation Management Division staff and the Director of Public Works should be in attendance. Notice of the meeting shall be posted in compliance with County code and State Law.

The purpose of this meeting will be to inventory and record current problem areas, discuss and record any new infestations, discuss effective noxious weed control efforts, discuss and coordinate county priorities with the Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) priorities, and plan and organize the year's weed control program.

In addition to the annual coordination meeting, midyear meetings may be held to discuss pressing weed control issues such as new noxious weed discoveries, noxious weed law violations, and enforcement. A final meeting shall be held in the fall to inform the County Weed Board of the activities of the Vegetation Management division for the past season and to discuss possible county priorities for the CWMA the following year. The *Annual Weed Progress Report* with a summary of the results of the summer's activities shall be provided to the County Weed Board.

## **C. WEED CONTROL SERVICE AREA**

Any individual, corporation, municipality, governmental agency, or organization owning, leasing, or controlling property within Cache County may request the services of the County Vegetation Management Division in accordance with the noxious weed control priorities established and approved by the County Weed Board and the Cache County Council. All requests for agricultural crop spraying and residential yard and/or garden spraying will be referred to commercial applicators.

Property owners are encouraged to participate in noxious weed control activities by locating, identifying, and controlling specific infestations on their individual properties. The County Vegetation Division shall conduct Noxious weed control activities where required throughout the County. In the case of weed control adjacent to organic farms, the County shall actively spray up to the property boundaries including all County road rights-of-way and easements. The responsibility to provide a "no-

spray” buffer remains on the property owner. If noxious weeds are present on organic farms, the property owner can opt to control said weeds in compliance with this policy, County code, and State law with non-chemical applications if the control is effective. However, if the property owners are unable to control weeds in an appropriate manner, the property may be declared a public nuisance in compliance with County code and the weeds controlled accordingly.

#### **D. WEED CONTROL PRIORITIES**

1. Control of noxious weeds or any plant deemed a nuisance or hazard on property within the county.
2. Control of noxious weeds on streams, drainage, and irrigation systems. Also, control of non-noxious plants, which impede the water flow in irrigation systems when that control can be accomplished as part of the noxious weed application.
3. Control of noxious weeds on non-crop land areas such as rangeland, wet pastures, fence lines, vacant land, right-of-ways, easements, county roadsides, etc.

#### **E. CATEGORIES OF WEEDS**

The State of Utah has an adopted noxious weed list with prioritization within Utah Administration Code R68-9. Invasive noxious weeds have been described as a raging biological wildfire-out of control, spreading rapidly, and causing enormous economic losses. Noxious weeds often reduce crop yields, and can damage watersheds, increase soil erosion, negatively impact wildland plant and animal communities, and adversely affect outdoor recreation. Ecological damage from uncontrolled noxious weed infestations can be permanent, leaving lands unable to return naturally to their pre-invasion condition. The invasive noxious weeds that are listed on the adopted State of Utah noxious weed list have been identified by the State Weed Board as a threat and can cause the impacts that have been described above, and have been categorized by classes to fit the current impact on our State. As Cache County has a unique climate, geography, and weed populations compared to the rest of the state, a Cache County specific Prioritized Noxious Weed List will be adopted annually. The County’s Prioritized Noxious Weed List is based on: existing acres of infestation, potential for weed population reduction and long term eradication, and specific targeted locations to reduce the spread of Noxious weeds to other areas (along riparian corridors, USFS boundaries, etc.). This list will be updated yearly, and used as a reference to determine which projects should be targeted with grant funds. See Appendix A for the 2025 Cache County Prioritized Noxious Weed List.

Cache County may also declare other weeds not on the State list as “County Noxious Weeds” in compliance with Utah State code 4-17-107(3a). As declared, such Noxious Weeds are placed onto the County’s prioritized list for monitoring and/or treatment. Cache County Noxious Weeds are:

- 1) Russian Salt Tree
- 2) Crack Willow

#### **F. NOXIOUS WEED SEED RESTRICTIONS**

It shall be unlawful for any individual or company to sell, offer, or expose for sale or distribute in the State of Utah any agricultural, vegetable, flower, tree and shrub seeds, or seeds for sprouting for seeding purposes which contain, either in part or in whole, any prohibited noxious weed seeds. “Prohibited” noxious weed seeds are the seeds of any plant determined by Utah Commissioner of

Agriculture and food to be injurious to public health, crops, livestock, land, or other property. (Utah Seed Law, R68-8)

## **G. WEED CONTROL FEE SCHEDULE**

- 1) **All Grant Funded Projects** – Projects where the CCVMD treats a State/County declared noxious weed and has received specific grant funding for the treatment of such. Cost of \$50.00 per acre with a **\$50.00** min. charge.
  
- 2) **Non-Grant Qualifying or Enforcement Work** - Labor and Equipment at fully loaded and audited rates and herbicide at full purchase price with a **\$90.00** min. charge.
  
- 3) **Vacant Lot Projects-** Treatment of Noxious Weed Infested Vacant lots within Municipality/County boundaries. Labor and Equipment at fully loaded and audited rates and herbicide at full purchase price.
  - i. The lots that will only be sprayed have a **\$90.00** min. charge.
  - ii. The lots that will be sprayed and mowed have a **\$180.00** min. charge.

\*Requests for services or contracts with Cache County Vegetation Management Division which; due to distance, terrain, special equipment/control requirements, or particular personnel needs; create expenses not anticipated in the above guidelines may be negotiated on an individual basis with the County.

**Revised/updated 2/3/2026**

# General Notice To Control Noxious Weeds

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 4-17-6 of the Utah Noxious Weed Act, to every person who owns or controls land in Cache County, Utah, that noxious weeds standing, being, or growing on such land shall be controlled and the spread of same prevented by effective cutting, tillage, cropping, pasturing, treating with chemicals or other effective methods, or combination thereof, approved by the County Weed Supervisor, as often as may be required to prevent the weed from blooming and maturing seeds, or spreading by root, root stalks or other means.

Upon failure to comply with this notice, the owner or person in possession of property upon which noxious weeds are present shall be deemed negligent and enforced control measures may be imposed at the discretion of the County authorities. Expense of control measures employed by the County shall be paid directly by the owner or person in possession of the property and become collectible by taxes.

The following are declared noxious weeds for the State of Utah:

**Class 1A-Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR)/Watch List:** Plants not known to be in Cache County, but thought to be present in neighboring counties/states. If found, swift eradication is a very high priority.

Common Crupina	African Rue	Mediterranean Sage	Spring Millet	Camelthorn
Syrian Beancaper	Plumeless Thistle	Malta Starthistle	Garlic Mustard	African Mustard
Purple Starthistle				

**Class 1B-Early Detection:** Plants that occur in Cache County at very low levels. It is a high priority to eradicate all known populations and prevent new ones.

Giant Reed	Squarrose Knapweed	Vipers Bugloss	Yellow Toadflax	Small Bugloss
Japanese Knotweed	Dalmation Toadflax	Diffuse Knapweed	Oxeye Daisy	Common St. Johnswort
Eurasian Milfoil (aquatic)		Parrot Feather (aquatic)		

**Class 2-Control:** Plants that have a reasonable distribution in Cache County, but do not occur everywhere. These plants are considered a high priority for control.

Leafy Spurge	Medusahead	Rush Skeletonweed	Spotted Knapweed	Purple Loosestrife
Ventenada	Yellow Starthistle	Black Henbane	Cutleaf Vipergrass	Goatsrue
Russian Knapweed	Elongated Mustard	Perennial Pepperweed	Hoary Cress	

**Class 3-Contain:** Plants widely distributed in Cache County. The current population of these plants should be contained to halt their spread.

Houndstounge	Phragmites	Tamarisk (Saltcedar)	Canada Thistle	Poison Hemlock
Musk Thistle	Quackgrass	Jointed Goatgrass	Bermudagrass	Perennial Sorghum
Scotch Thistle	Field Bindweed	Puncturevine(Goathead)	Dyers Woad	

**Class 4-Prohibited:** Plants that is present in Cache County that has arrived as nursery stock or seed and was sold as ornamentals. These plants are now prohibited for sale or distribution.

Cogongrass	Myrtle spurge	Dames Rocket	Scotch broom	Russian olive
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**In addition, the following are noxious weeds for Cache County only:**

Russian Salt Tree	Crack Willow
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For any questions or for further information please contact: Jake Forsgren  
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Cache County Website: <https://www.cachecounty.gov/vegetationmanagement/>

## Appendix A- 2026 Cache County Prioritized Noxious Weed List

Class	Weed Name	County Status
1A	African Rue	Watch EDRR
1A	Common Crupina	Watch EDRR
1A	Malta Starthistle	Watch EDRR
1A	Mediterranean Sage	Watch EDRR
1A	Plumeless Thistle	Watch EDRR
1A	Perennial Sorghums	Watch EDRR
1A	Spring Milletgrass	Watch EDRR
1A	Syrian Beancaper	Watch EDRR
1A	Camelthorn	Watch EDRR
1A	Sahara Mustard	Watch EDRR
1A	Garlic Mustard	Watch EDRR
1A	Purple Starthistle	Watch EDRR
1B	Squarrose Knapweed	EDRR
1B	Giant Reed	EDRR
1B	Vipers Bugloss	EDRR
1B	Yellow Toadflax	EDRR
1B	Small Bugloss	EDRR
1B	Japanese Knotweed	EDRR
1B	Dalmatian Toadflax	EDRR
1B	Diffuse Knapweed	EDRR
1B	Common St. Johnswort	EDRR
1B	Oxeye Daisy	EDRR
2A	Yellow Starthistle	Control
2A	Elongated Mustard	Control
2A	Black Henbane	Control
2A	Russian Knapweed	Control
2A	Rush Skeletonweed	Control

Class	Weed Name	County Status
2A	Purple Loosestrife	Control
2A	Perennial Pepperweed	Control
2A	Spotted Knapweed	Control
2B	Leafy Spurge	Control
2B	Hoary Cress	Control
2B	Ventenata	Control
2B	Cutleaf Viper's Grass	Control
2B	Musk Thistle	Control
2B	Phragmites	Control
2B	Poison Hemlock	Control
2B	Goatsrue	Control
3	Salt Cedar	Containment
3	Puncturevine	Containment
3	Medusahead Rye	Containment
3	Scotch Thistle	Containment
3	Jointed Goatgrass	Containment
3	Canada Thistle	Containment
3	Dyers Woad	Containment
3	Houndstongue	Containment
3	Field Bindweed	Containment
3	Quack Grass	Containment
4	Myrtle Spurge	Prohibited
4	Congongrass	Prohibited
4	Damesrocket	Prohibited
4	Russian Olive	Prohibited
4	Scotch Broom	Prohibited
4	Bermudagrass	Prohibited

### Aquatic-Submerged Noxious Weeds

A-1B	Parrot's Feather	EDRR
A-1E	Eurasian Milfoil	EDRR

### Additional County Declared Noxious Weeds

1B	Russian Salt Tree	EDRR
4	Crack Willow	Prohibited

<b>Class 1A- WATCH EDRR</b> Have not been identified in Cache County
<b>Class 1AE- Eradicated</b> Has been identified in Cache County in the past. Monitored annually
<b>Class A-1B- Aquatics</b> Extreme High priority, Eradication possible. Goal to move into 1A category
<b>Class 1B-EDRR</b> Extreme High priority, Eradication possible. Goal to move into 1AE category
<b>Class 2A-Control</b> Known to exist in limited populations, high priority. Goal to move into 1B category
<b>Class 2B- Control</b> Known to exist in broader populations, high priority. Goal to move into 2A category
<b>Class 3- Containment</b> Exist throughout Cache County, mid priority. Goal is to move into 2B category
<b>Class 4- Prohibited</b> Threat through retail sale in the nursery and greenhouse industries.