

## P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDENING PROGRAM

# P-PATCH INVASIVE PLANT GUIDELINES



In community gardens there are many plants that people love to grow for food, spice or herbal uses that can become problematic and spread easily by seeds, roots, or plant parts. This is an attempt to teach about how invasive some plants we grow can be. Also, to create some best practices for eradication and containment using organic methods or grown in a way that they will not become a problem for the whole garden.

**Invasive plants in community gardens**

What is an invasive plant? Common invasive species traits include:

Fast growth

Rapid reproduction

High dispersal ability

Ability to alter growth form to suit current conditions

Tolerance of a wide range of environmental conditions



**:Poison**



**:Must be Removed**

<p>Class A: eradication required in plots and common areas (include best strategies for removal) </p>	<p>Class B: These are abundant in some gardens and rare in others. In gardens where already widespread, control is required. </p>	<p>Class C: These are common in all gardens and containment is required</p>	<p>Plants of concern: These are common in all gardens control and containment is recommended</p>
<p><b>Bamboo (<i>Bambusa</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Best Practices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Withhold water to control</li> <li>Dig deeply and frequently</li> <li>Be consistent and persistent</li> </ul> <p> <b>Poison Hemlock (<i>conium maculatum</i>)</b> * Class A King County</p>  <p><b>Best Practices:</b> Physical damage can occur include proper clothing and other protection recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deadhead prior to seed set.</li> <li>Dig entire taproot.</li> <li>Bag and put in garbage.</li> </ul> <p><b>Garlic Mustard (<i>alliaria petiolata</i>)</b> *Class A King County</p>  <p><b>Best Practices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deadhead prior to seed set</li> <li>Remove upper portions of roots and stem as root crown can produce additional stems.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Quack Grass (<i>elymus repens</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Best Practices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dig deeply and frequently (lateral roots create new plants)</li> <li>Remove roots and runners (do not till or compost )</li> <li>Be consistent and persistent</li> <li>Shading helps to decrease vigor of plants.</li> <li>Cover Cropping can block growth</li> </ul> <p><b>Bindweed (<i>convolvulus arvensis</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Best Practices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deadhead prior to seed set</li> <li>Collect and dispose of roots (do not till or compost )</li> <li>Be consistent and persistent</li> </ul> <p><b>Japanese and Giant Knotweed (<i>polygonum</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Best Practices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dig deeply and frequently</li> <li>Remove roots and runners (do not till or compost )</li> <li>Cutting shoots close to the ground reduces the viability</li> <li>Be consistent and persistent</li> </ul>	<p><b>Fennel-perennial type (<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Horseradish (<i>Armoracia rusticana</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Best Practices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deadhead prior to seed set</li> <li>Dig entire taproot.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mints</b></p>  <p><b>Oregano (<i>Origanum vulgare</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Raspberries (<i>Rubus</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Best Practices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Barrier to control roots</li> <li>Cut back frequently</li> <li>Deadhead prior to seed set</li> </ul>	<p><b>Borage (<i>Borago officinalis</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Calendula (<i>Colendula officinalis</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Best Practices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deadhead prior to seed set</li> <li>Frequent harvesting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sunchoke (<i>Helianthus tuberosus</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Burdock (<i>Arctium Lappa</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Best Practices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deadhead prior to seed set</li> <li>Dig entire taproot</li> </ul> <p><b>Horsetail (<i>Equisetum arvense</i>)</b></p>  <p><b>Best Practices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dig deeply and frequently</li> <li>Remove roots and runners (do not till or compost )</li> <li>Adjust pH, likes wet acidic soils to reduce vigor</li> </ul>

\*Some plants are listed on the King County Noxious Weed list. For more information on King County Noxious Weeds: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsAndPlants/noxious-weeds/laws/list.aspx>



***“FARMING LOOKS MIGHTY EASY WHEN YOUR PLOW IS A  
PENCIL AND YOU’RE A 1000 MILES FROM THE CORNFIELD”***

***-Dwight D Eisenhower***

***VISIT THE GARDEN OFTEN***



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