

# **NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN**

*Revised June 2006*



Sunriver Owners Association  
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## INTRODUCTION

Noxious weeds are highly aggressive, non-native plants with the potential to reproduce quickly and out-compete native and ornamental vegetation. These plants pose a real and present menace to property values in Sunriver. Property for sale inspections reduce appraisal of properties with noxious weeds in some areas. Media reports indicate that this depreciation is already beginning to occur in Central Oregon and will become a common criterion.

The two main noxious weeds threatening Sunriver are Spotted Knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*) and Dalmatian Toadflax (*Linnarea dalmatica*). These are not average garden-variety weeds. The plants can quickly:

- significantly lower the value and beauty of property
- degrade the native ecosystem
- destroy vital wildlife habitat and forage
- poison domestic animals and wildlife

In March 2002, Deschutes County enacted Ordinance 2002-037 establishing a countywide Weed Control District, which states:

Every person, firm or corporation owning or occupying land within Deschutes county shall destroy or prevent the seeding on such land any noxious weeds within the meaning of ORS 570.515 to 570.600 or declared to be noxious by the Board. No weed declared noxious shall be permitted (to produce seed) by the owner or occupier.

The Sunriver Owners Association (SROA) has the crucial responsibility to protect the value of all properties within Sunriver. This Noxious Weed Management Plan (NWMP) is adopted to establish guidelines and policy for control of noxious weeds on all Sunriver properties.

## APPLICATION

1. To maintain a commitment to the control of noxious weeds, the Sunriver Owners Association sets forth and adopts the following plan for the removal and/or control of noxious weeds from all Sunriver properties.
  - 1.1. The Environmental Department is responsible for the implementation of this plan on SROA owned properties and inspection of private properties within Sunriver. All private property shall be inspected on a regular basis for compliance with the criteria contained herein.
  - 1.2. Owners of private property shall be responsible to keep noxious weeds on their properties from producing seed each year, subject to the process outlined below.

- 1.3. For vegetation other than noxious weeds, provisions of the Ladder Fuels Reduction Plan shall apply. Copies are available at the Environmental Department or on the SROA Web site [www.sunriverowners.org](http://www.sunriverowners.org).
- 1.4 “Noxious Weeds” designated by SROA shall refer to:
- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Knapweed species              | ( <i>Centaurea</i> spp.)     |
| Dalmatian toadflax            | ( <i>Linaria dalmatica</i> ) |
| Bull thistle                  | ( <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> )   |
| Canada thistle                | ( <i>Cirsium arvense</i> )   |
| Russian thistle or tumbleweed | ( <i>Salsola iberica</i> )   |
| Kochia                        | ( <i>Kochia scoparia</i> ).  |
- 1.5 Other weeds of concern that may be removed include:
- |                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Cheatgrass      | ( <i>Bromus tectorum</i> )      |
| Common mullein  | ( <i>Verbascum thapsis</i> )    |
| Filaree species | ( <i>Erodium</i> spp.)          |
| St. Johnswort   | ( <i>Hypericum perforatum</i> ) |
- 1.6 The Deschutes County Weed Board has developed a comprehensive list of designated noxious weeds. Though this list is applicable to Deschutes County as a whole, SROA has determined the noxious weeds detailed in 1.4 and 1.5 as those most likely to occur in the Sunriver ecological community. Deschutes County maintains noxious weed control authority under Oregon Revised Statutes 570.500-600. Copies of the Deschutes County noxious weed regulations and noxious weed list are available at the SROA Environmental Department or on the county web site at <http://www.deschutes.org/go/government/departments/road-department/citizen-involvement/noxious-weeds>.
- 1.7 The Environmental Manager may add species to the foregoing sections subject to review by the Environmental Committee.

## PERMITTING

2. In accordance with Section 4.01 of the Sunriver Rules and Regulations, owners are required to obtain a permit prior to removing any vegetation from private properties or SROA owned properties. The above listed noxious weeds are excepted from permitting requirements.
- 2.1. Removal of plant species not listed above may result in issuance of a citation. Owners are strongly encouraged to contact the SROA Environmental Department for on-site evaluations and control advice prior to weed control activities. Post-treatment site inspections will be made periodically and upon request. (Call 541-593-1522).
- 2.2. Weed control on private turf grass does not require a permit.

- 2.3. Written pre-approval by the Environmental Director is required prior to application of weed control chemicals in Sunriver.

## **NOXIOUS WEED REMOVAL CRITERIA**

### **3. PRIVATE PROPERTY**

- 3.1. Each owner shall control noxious weeds on his/her property in such a manner that they are prevented from producing seed. To be successful, control measures must be completed not later than August 15 annually.
- 3.2. Contact the Environmental Department (541-593-1522) or ([www.sunriverowners.org](http://www.sunriverowners.org)) for appropriate control methods for specific weed species and for a list of weed control contractors registered in Sunriver.

### **4. PRIVATE PROPERTY NOXIOUS WEED DISPOSAL**

- 4.1. The disposal of noxious weeds removed from private property is the responsibility of the property owner. Any weeds budding, flowering or seeding must be bagged and disposed of to prevent their regeneration. Weeds without buds, flowers, or seeds may be left on the ground where pulled.

### **5. SROA OWNED PROPERTY**

- 5.1. The Environmental Department is responsible for Noxious Weed Control on SROA properties on a priority basis to be determined by the Environmental Director.
- 5.2. Hand pulling by hired crews and volunteers will be the primary means of control. Selected areas may be treated with herbicide, biological control, grazing or other means at the discretion of the Environmental Director.
- 5.3. SROA encourages volunteer noxious weed pulling efforts on SROA owned property, but recommends weed identification training and/or experience.

## **NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW**

6. This plan is to be reviewed and updated as needed by the Environmental Director and the Environmental Committee, and approved by the Board of Directors.

## **RESOURCES**

Technical advice is available at the SROA Environmental Office (541-593-1522), the Sunriver Nature Center & Observatory (541-593-4394), the Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District (541-923-2204), or the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council (541-383-7146).