



Weed of the Month

Parrotfeather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)



An escaped ornamental aquatic native to South America, [Parrotfeather](#) (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) gets its name from the feather-like leaves arranged around each stem in whorls of four to six. This noxious weed provides little cover for aquatic organisms and can seriously change the physical and chemical characteristics of lakes and streams. Infestations can alter aquatic ecosystems by shading out the algae in the water column that serve as the basis of the aquatic food web. Additionally, parrotfeather provides choice mosquito larvae habitat. Large infestations are also noted as having caused flooding and drainage problems in shallow rivers and streams along with restricting recreational opportunities.

Infestations of parrotfeather can be found in freshwater ponds, streams, lakes, and canals, especially in high-nutrient environments. Parrotfeather tends to colonize slowly moving or still shallow water, though it can occur as a floating plant in deep water. It has been found in the nearby counties of Lewis, Pacific and Grays Harbor.

Removal tips:

- Parrotfeather and other aquatic noxious weeds can be difficult to control. Since it spreads by stem and rhizome fragments, mechanical methods such as cutting, harvesting and underwater tilling is not advisable. These methods can increase infestations by dispersing plant fragments that may root in uninvaded areas.
- Washington Dept of Ecology has more information on controlling aquatic weeds [found here](#).

2017 Washington State Noxious Weed List is Out

The Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board is tasked with maintaining and updating the official list of noxious weeds that landowners may be required to control.

- Learn more about the [3 different classes](#) of noxious weeds.
- Learn about [noxious weed laws](#) in Washington State.
- For information on the weed listing process, [click here](#).

Jefferson County does not require control for every [Class B](#) or [Class C](#) noxious weed on the state list. Jefferson County's noxious weed list can be [found here](#), and will be updated for 2017 this spring. We encourage control of all invasive species, regardless of legal requirement. To learn why, read Washington State's [booklet on noxious weeds in WA](#).

2017 Washington State Noxious Weed List:

[Noxious Weed List alphabetized by common name \(PDF\)](#)

[Spanish Noxious Weed list alphabetized by common name \(PDF\)](#)

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The Port Townsend Marine Science Center will have their annual weed pull at Fort Worden. Please email scroston@ptmsc.org to RSVP

Upcoming events

[Tree Planting at Upper Snow Creek with JLT and NOSC](#)

January 7, 10am-1pm

[Dungeness Tree Planting with Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and NOSC](#)

January 14-15, 10am-2pm

[MLK Day Weed Pull with PT Marine Science Center](#)

January 16, noon-3pm

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Contact us by phone or email:

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Our mailing address is:

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