



## Isanti County Noxious Weed Top Ten “Hit List”

1. **WILD PARSNIP**: Creates a skin reaction when in contact with the sap and exposed to UV light. Reactions can be worse than poison ivy.
2. **COMMON TANSY**: Invades dry, full sun disturbed sites and transitional habitats, will grow in full sun or full shade. Currently out of management control in St. Louis County near Duluth.
3. **LEAFY SPURGE**: Invades dry, full sun disturbed sites and chokes out native vegetation in prairies and lakeshore restorations. Can be harmful to grazing livestock. Can cause skin reaction in humans as well.
4. **SPOTTED KNAPWEED**: Biennial that invades dry sites and chokes out native grasses and wildflowers. Can cause skin reaction in humans as well.
5. **PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE**: Semi-aquatic perennial that is considered noxious and an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). Produces thousands of tiny seeds and can choke out beneficial native wetland species. Can invade riparian habitat. Lake owners be aware and you do not need a permit to remove flower stalks to keep from spreading seed, however; you must remove early during bloom or cut prior to bloom, put in sealed plastic garbage bag, put in a pile and burn on site. **DO NOT TRANSPORT OFF SITE**, permit required to do this and must be applied for through County Ag. Inspector. **DNR PERMIT REQUIRED** for herbicide treatments on Public Waters.
6. **CANADA THISTLE**: Difficult perennial to eradicate, reproduces by seed, rhizomes, and root cuttings. Do not MOW once it seeds, mow prior to flowering to control seed production. Excavation of roots can spread this species, do not transport soil known to have this species present.
7. **JAPANESE/BOHEMIAN KNOTWEED**: Otherwise known as Jap. Bamboo, Jap. Fleece Flower or Mexican Bamboo. Control is now required by law, so landowners are strongly encouraged to manage these invasive plants on their properties. This species can invade riparian habitat and be difficult to control if it escapes out of “captivity”. NOT advisable to plant within 100 feet of any water body or it’s floodplain. St. Louis County and Duluth have serious issues with this plant. It is on the [Control List](#).
8. **COMMON AND EUROPEAN BUCKTHORN**: Relatively widespread in the County. Invades woodlots, vacant lots, parks, unmanaged property, and riparian habitats. One of the first species to leaf out in spring and last to lose leaves in fall. Birds spread seed long distances by eating and discarding berries. It is on the [Restricted List](#)
9. **BLACK LOCUST**: Control not required by law, but landowners are strongly encouraged to manage these invasive plants on their properties. Seed pods can float across water or down streams and invade other riparian/woodlot habitat. It is on the [Restricted List](#).
10. **TATARIAN AND ASIAN HONEYSUCKLE**: **Do not plant**. Control not required by law, but landowners strongly encouraged to manage these invasive plants on their properties. It can grow in full sun to shade, and moist to dry, gravelly, or sandy soils. Invades native forests and transitional habitats. It is on the [Restricted List](#).

These species have been all identified in parts of our County. Please contact the CAI with any questions or click here for the [Noxious Weed Law](#). The County is managing them on our right of ways within the budget that is allowed. The top 7 species **must** be controlled to prevent the maturation of the plant propagating parts and/or seed set. The remaining 3 are deemed as invasive species and landowners who wish to maintain self-sustaining native habitats should consider controlling them.



Fig. 1-Wild Parsnip rosette.



Fig. 6-Canadian Thistle stem & leaf.



Fig. 10-Japanese Knotweed leaves.



Fig. 2-Common Tansy in bloom.



Fig. 7-Com. Buckthorn leaf & fruit.



Fig. 11-Tatarian Honeysuckle.



Fig. 3-Leafy Spurge early June.



Fig. 8-Glossy Buckthorn saplings.



Fig. 4-Spotted Knapweed 2nd yr rosette.



Fig. 9-Black Locust has compound leaves.



Fig. 5-Purple Loosestrife prior to bloom.

Prohibited noxious weeds are annual, biennial, or perennial plants that the commissioner designates as having the potential or are known to be detrimental to human or animal health, the environment, public roads, crops, livestock or other property. These 10 species are **extremely invasive** and will crowd out the native oak savanna and tall grass prairie species in this region of Minnesota. If you are suspicious of a specific plant and want help identifying it please contact your local CAI or township weed inspector.

At this time there is no known infestations of species on the eradicate list in Isanti County; however collaboration and communication for early detection and management of a particular species is critical to protect our agricultural commodities and native habitats from the nature of these invasive species.

\*Photos were obtained directly from [MDA website](#), [WI DNR](#), or [EddMaps](#) County Ag. Inspector verified reports.



## ISANTI COUNTY AGRICULTURE INSPECTOR OUTREACH