

Identifying Invasive Plants in Happy Valley

To help landowners and homeowners recognize and remove harmful vegetation, the City of Happy Valley has transformed our Nuisance Plant List into a visual gallery. While this gallery doesn't include every invasive species found in our area, it highlights some of the most frequently spotted culprits.

What Are Invasive Plants?

Invasive plants are non-native species that spread aggressively, causing environmental or economic harm. Some were introduced intentionally—for erosion control or as ornamental landscaping—while others arrived by accident, hitching rides on vehicles, boats, goods shipments, or even on the soles of our shoes.

Why Are They a Problem?

Without their natural predators or environmental checks, invasive plants can grow unchecked in new environments. They thrive in disturbed areas where native vegetation has been removed, and soil is left bare. With recent development and land disturbance across Happy Valley, these opportunistic species are finding plenty of room to grow—and spread.

Help Protect Our Ecosystems

Explore our gallery to learn which plants to watch for and remove. By staying informed and taking action, you can play a vital role in preserving our local landscapes and biodiversity.

Invasive Plants and Wildfire Risk

In recent years, climate change has brought more frequent and severe wildfires and drought conditions. Many invasive plant species contribute to this threat by increasing both the risk and intensity of wildfires. These plants often form dense thickets and continuous layers of dry ground fuels, which can allow fires to spread quickly, especially through forest understories and open spaces.

As part of Happy Valley's wildfire mitigation strategy, the city is prioritizing the removal of noxious and invasive vegetation. Targeted efforts in open spaces are crucial, where these plants often dominate disturbed areas and pose a significant fire hazard.

By addressing these fire-prone species, we can better protect our natural landscapes, neighborhoods, and public safety.

LEARN MORE AND GET INVOLVED:



For a full list of nuisance and invasive plants in Happy Valley, please refer to our official document: [LDC-Appendix-A-Happy-Valley-Plant-List-Effective-6.16.22.pdf](#)



To explore detailed descriptions and photographs of specific invasive plant species, visit the Oregon Department of Agriculture's Noxious Weed Profiles. [ODA : Oregon Noxious Weed Profiles : Oregon Noxious Weeds : State of Oregon.](#)



If you're interested in helping to protect our region from invasive plants, consider getting involved with the Weed Wise Program, operated by the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District. They offer resources, support, and volunteer opportunities for landowners and community members. [WeedWise – Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District](#)

Remove these if found:



Scotch Broom
(*Cytisus scoparius*)



Common Horsetail
(*Equisetum arvense*)



Reed Canarygrass
(*Phalaris arundinacea*)



Armenian blackberry
(*Rubus armeniacus*)



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Remove these if found:

City of Happy Valley Nuisance Plant List



Garlic Mustard
(*Alliaria petiolate*)



Japanese Knotweed
(*Fallopia japonica*)



English Ivy
(*Hedera helix*)



English Holly
(*Ilex aquifolium*)



Tree of Heaven
(*Ailanthus altissima*)



Purple Loosestrife
(*Lythrum salicaria*)



Old Man's Beard
(*Clematis vitalba*)



Creeping Buttercup
(*Ranunculus repens*)



Meadow Knapweed
(*Centaurea pratensis*)



Butterfly Bush
(*Buddleja davidii*)



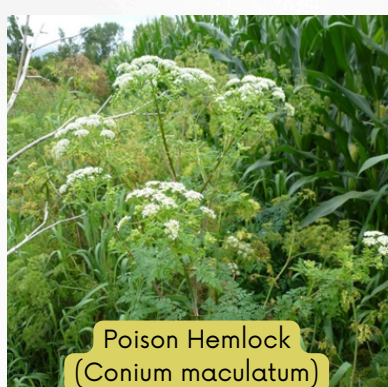
Norway Maple
(*Acer platanoides*)



Canada Thistle
(*Cirsium arvense*)



Shiny Geranium
(*Geranium lcidum*)



Poison Hemlock
(*Conium maculatum*)



English Hawthorn
(*Crataegus monogyna Jacq*)