

The Minnesota Noxious Weed Law (MN Statutes 18.75-18.91) defines a noxious weed as an annual, biennial, or perennial plant that the Commissioner of Agriculture designates to be injurious to public health, the environment, public roads, crops, livestock, or other property. The purpose of the law is to protect residents of the state from the injurious effects of noxious weeds.

There are twenty-nine plant species regulated as noxious weeds in Minnesota. Twenty plants are listed as [prohibited noxious weeds](#) which consist of two regulatory lists— twelve plants listed on the [prohibited eradicate list](#) and eight on the [prohibited control list](#). Prohibited noxious weeds must be eradicated or controlled in accordance with the Minnesota Noxious Weed Law. Five species are listed as [restricted noxious weeds](#) and are prohibited from importation, sale, and unlawful transportation in Minnesota. Four species are listed as a [specially regulated plants](#) that can be enforced under specific conditions.

Prohibited Noxious Weeds – Attempts must be made by all landowners to control or eradicate species on these lists. These species cannot be transported without a permit or sold in Minnesota

Eradicate List –must be eradicated by killing the above and belowground parts of the plant.

1. [Yellow Starthistle](#) *Centaurea solstitialis* L.
2. [Grecian Foxglove](#) *Digitalis lanata* Ehrh.
3. [Oriental Bittersweet](#) *Celastrus orbiculatus* Thunb.
4. [Japanese Hops](#) *Humulus japonicus* Siebold & Zucc.
5. [Dalmatian Toadflax](#) *Linaria dalmatica* (L.) Mill.
6. [Common Teasel](#) *Dipsacus fullonum* L.
7. [Cutleaf Teasel](#) *Dipsacus laciniatus* L.
8. [Giant Hogweed](#) *Heracleum mantegazzianum* Sommier & Levier
9. [Brown Knapweed](#) *Centaurea jacea* L.
10. [Meadow Knapweed](#) *Centaurea x moncktonii* C.E. Britton
11. [Black Swallow-wort](#) *Cynanchum louiseae* Kartesz & Gandhi
12. [Palmer Amaranth](#) *Amaranthus palmeri* S.Watson

Control List –must be controlled preventing the maturation and spread of propagating parts.

1. [Leafy Spurge](#) *Euphorbia esula* L.
2. [Canada Thistle](#) *Cirsium arvense* (L.) Scop.
3. [Plumeless Thistle](#) *Carduus acanthoides* L.
4. [Purple Loosestrife](#) *Lythrum salicaria* L., *L. virgatum* L.,
5. [Wild Parsnip](#) *Pastinaca sativa* L. **(Except for non-wild cultivated varieties)**
6. [Common Tansy](#) *Tanacetum vulgare* L.
7. [Spotted Knapweed](#) *Centaurea stoebe* L. ssp. *micranthos* (Gugler) Hayek
8. [Narrowleaf Bittercress](#) *Cardamine impatiens* L.

Restricted Noxious Weeds - may not be sold, transported without a permit, or intentionally planted in Minnesota.

1. [Common or European Buckthorn](#) *Rhamnus cathartica* L.
2. [Glossy Buckthorn](#) (and all cultivars) *Frangula alnus* Mill.
3. [Multiflora Rose](#) *Rosa multiflora* Thunb.
4. [Common Reed](#) (non-native subspecies) *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud. ssp. *Australis*
5. [Garlic Mustard](#) *Alliaria petiolata* (M. Bieb.) Cavara & Grande

Specially Regulated Plants –shall be handled, controlled or eradicated according to specified regulations.

1. [Poison Ivy](#) *Toxicodendron radicans* (L.) Kuntze & *T. rydbergii* (Small) Green *Must be eradicated or controlled for public safety along rights-of-ways, trails, public accesses, business properties open to the public or on parts of lands where public access for business or commerce is granted. Must also be eradicated or controlled along property borders when requested by adjoining landowners.*
2. [Japanese Knotweed](#) *Polygonum cuspidatum* Seib. & Zucc.
3. [Giant Knotweed](#) *Polygonum sachalinense* F. Schmidt ex Maxim.
Any person, corporation, business or other retail entity distributing Japanese and/or giant knotweeds for sale within the state, must have information directly affixed to the plant or container packaging that it is being sold with, indicating that it is inadvisable to plant this species within 100 feet of a water body or its designated flood plain as defined by Minnesota Statute 103F.111, Subdivision 4.

Specialty Regulated Plants Continued

4. Japanese Barberry Cultivars *Berberis thunbergii* DC.

These cultivars average greater than 600 seeds per plant and will begin a three-year phase-out period in Minnesota beginning January 1, 2015:

• 'Angel Wings' • 'Antares' • var. *atropurpurea* • 'Bailtwo' (Burgundy Carousel®) • 'Monomb' (Cherry Bomb™) • 'Crimson Velvet' • 'Erecta' • 'Gold Ring' • 'Bailsel' (Golden Carousel®; *B. koreana* × *B. thunbergii* hybrid) • 'Inermis' • 'Bailgreen' (Jade Carousel®) • 'JN Redleaf' (Ruby Jewel™) • 'JN Variegated' (Stardust™) • 'Kelleris' • 'Kobold' • 'Anderson' (Lustre Green™) • 'Marshall Upright' • 'Painter's Palette' • 'Pow Wow' • 'Red Rocket' • 'Rose Glow' • 'Bailone' (Ruby Carousel®) • 'Silver Mile' • 'Sparkle' • 'Tara' (Emerald Carousel®; *B. koreana* × *B. thunbergii* hybrid) • Wild Type (parent species – green barberry)

****At the end of the phase-out period (December 31, 2017), these cultivars will become Restricted Noxious Weeds in Minnesota and will be illegal to sell and propagate.***

County Noxious Weeds – County Noxious Weeds are plants that are designated by individual county boards to be enforced as prohibited noxious weeds within the county's jurisdiction and must be approved by the Commissioner of Agriculture, in consultation with the Noxious Weed Advisory Committee. Each county board must submit newly proposed County Noxious Weeds to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture for review. Approved County Noxious Weeds shall also be posted with the county's general weed notice prior to May 15th each year. Counties are solely responsible for developing County Noxious Weed lists and their enforcement. **Contact your local County Agricultural Inspector or Designated Employee for more information on County Noxious Weeds**

<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/en/plants/pestmanagement/weedcontrol/cailist.aspx>

Adding species to County Noxious Weed Lists

It is up to an individual county to determine if they will have a designated county noxious weed list and the process for selection of species to be added to the list. If the county board of commissioners establishes a county noxious weed list, townships wanting to add species should pass a resolution with the county's Township Association showing that the representative of townships for that county are in favor of adding a particular species and enforcing it. This resolution can then be submitted to the County Agricultural Inspector or Designated Employee for that jurisdiction. It is still up to the county board of commissioners to decide if they want to list and enforce any species submitted to them via the township association or other entities. Minnesota Department of Agriculture approved County Noxious Weed Lists can be enforced by authorized agents of the commissioner under the MN Noxious Weed Law as outlined in *Minnesota Statutes 18.80 – 18.81*.

Townships can also use their local ordinance process to regulate plant species that are not listed by the county or state. Enforcement of species listed via a municipal ordinance is the responsibility of municipal authorities and cannot be regulated under or associated with the MN Noxious Weed Law - *MS 18.75 – 18.91*.

Failure to comply with the Minnesota Noxious Weed Law may result in an enforcement action by a county or local municipality.

Additional resources for regulated noxious weeds and non-regulated invasive plants in Minnesota

MDA Website - <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/weedcontrol>

MN DOT Website - <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/roadsides/vegetation/pdf/noxiousweeds.pdf>

MN DNR Website - <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialplants/index.html>

MN Board of Water and Soil Resources Cooperative Weed Management Areas - <http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/grantscostshare/cwma/CWMA.html>