

Billings County Weed Control Board

PO Box 168 Medora, ND 58645-0168 Phone: (701) 575-2215 Email: bcweed09@live.com

2018 Noxious Weeds Informational Events

The Billings County
Weed Control Board

(BCWCB) will have a booth set up at the Annual Medora Grazing Association meeting, at the AmericInn Conference Room Wednesday May 30th at 1:30p.m in Medora. The booth will include live plant displays, flea beetle collection signup sheets, and information regarding the 2018 spray season. The North Dakota Weed Control Association will be hosting three sprayer schools this spring. Tuesday May 29th in Carrington ND, Wednesday May 30th in Minot ND, and Thursday May 31st in Dickinson ND. More information regarding the sprayer schools will be available online at www.ndweeds.homestead.com.

Weed Watch: Salt Cedar

Salt Cedar is still being found

within Billings County. In 2017 multiple large trees were found on a federal allotment located southwest of Medora. Salt Cedar is a shrub-like tree that originated as an ornamental. It has a red and brown tinted bark, produces flowers with five petals that can either be pink or white in color, and flowers in mid to late summer. It is most commonly found along bodies of water and waterways. Salt Cedar spreads by seed and also by its roots. One of the biggest problems with Salt Cedar is it absorbs extreme amounts of water to the extent of choking out other plants. Large populations of Salt Cedar have even dried up entire lakes. Landowners and operators in Billings County should be watching for new Salt Cedar infestations. The BCWCB will assist landowners in monitoring and controlling any Salt Cedar populations that are reported to them.



BCWCB Employee
treating two different
Salt Cedar trees.
Southwest of Medora
summer 2017.



Dense stand of
Salt Cedar prior
to treatment.



Weed Board *Officers*

Perry Redmond
Chairman
Fairfield, ND
(701) 575-2013

Jonathan Odermann
Vice Chairman
Medora, ND
(701) 290-5765

Mary Abrahamson
Secretary
Medora, ND
(701) 623-4378

Katie Clyde
Weed Control Officer
Dickinson, ND
(701) 218-0113

Weed Board *Members*

Gordon Gerbig
Amidon, ND
(701) 575-8007

Jessica Buckman
Fairfield, ND
(701) 863-8412

Kasey Malkowski
Fairfield, ND
(701) 290-3625

Kevin Fugere
Belfield, ND
(701) 575-4025

Tom Redmond
Belfield, ND
(701) 575-4510

~ North Dakota and Billings County Noxious Weed List ~



**Absinth
Wormwood**



**Black
Henbane**



**Canada
Thistle**



**Common
Burdock**



**Dalmatian
Toadflax**



**Diffuse
Knapweed**



**Field
Bindweed**



**Hoary
Cress**



Houndstongue



**Leafy
Spurge**



**Musk
Thistle**



**Purple
Loosestrife**

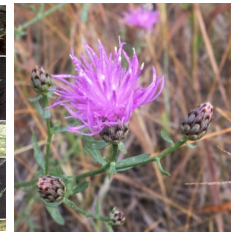
For more information on noxious weeds, or if you need help identifying a plant, please contact BCWCB Office (701)575-2215, NDSU Extension Service in Dickinson (701)456-7665, or NDSU Extension Service in Beach (701)872-4332



**Russian
Knapweed**



**Salt
Cedar**



**Spotted
Knapweed**



**Yellow
Toadflax**

Aerial Spraying

The Billings County Weed Board began spraying U.S. Forest Service land with a helicopter in the fall of 2016. This was done again in October 2017. One thousand six hundred acres of Leafy spurge have been treated with a fall chemical mixture of Plateau and MSO since 2016. Dakota Helicopters, Beulah, has been hired to perform these applications. The BCWCB, along with the Forest Service, monitors and tracks each application. The BCWCB tracked and timed the spray applications by monitoring and recording the wind, temperature, and humidity every half hour. They also tracked the time the helicopters landed and departed the fill truck while filling the spray tank. The areas treated in the fall of 2016 were evaluated over the summer of 2017, results showed significant improvement by reduced leafy spurge populations. The BCWCB plans on continuing aerial spraying in the fall of 2018. Several allotments have been approved by the Forest Service for aerial spraying. There are several requirements that need to be met for an area to qualify. If you have an area you would like to suggest please contact the BCWCB. We look forward to moving these treatments to multiple areas throughout Billings County.



Several photographs were taken by Mikayla Obrigewitch with M.O. Photography.

2018 Cost Share

There will be a few changes to how the BCWCB does cost share in 2018. Landowners will be responsible for 30% of the total cost of all chemical they receive from the Weed Board. The remaining 70% will be billed through the ND Dept. of Ag. through the Landowners Assistance Program (LAP). There will also be a cap on how much landowners can receive through this program. After a landowner receives one thousand dollars' worth of chemical through the county, they will be billed the full price of any additional chemical. The one thousand dollar limit will reset every year. Changes have been made to our program regarding spraying charges. In 2018 landowners that have the BCWCB do private spraying will be charged \$30.00 per hour for equipment use. In previous years landowners have only been charged for half the chemical costs and half of the labor costs and the rest was billed through LAP.

2018 Estimated Chemical Costs

<u>Gly Star 5</u> \$15.94/gal	<u>Vista</u> \$166.30
<u>Dye Packets</u> 5.07/pkt.	<u>Plateau</u> \$96.00/gal
<u>LV-6</u> \$17.80/gal	<u>2-4D Amine</u> \$9.20/gal
<u>Milestone</u> \$70.75/qt.	<u>Spret</u> (Surfactant) \$11.74/gal
<u>MSO</u> \$10.49/gal	<u>Tordon 22K</u> \$44.80/gal

The BCWCB hosted several successful flea beetle collections in the summer of

Flea Beetles for the Control of Leafy Spurge

2017. We had private landowners and weed boards attend from several counties including Billings, Burleigh, Dunn, Golden Valley, McKenzie, Slope, Stark, Wibaux, and Williams. Organizations that participated in our field days included, the U.S. Forest Service, North Dakota Department of Agriculture, North Dakota Park and Recreation, North Dakota State University, and North Dakota Game and Fish.



Beetles are sorted, measured, and put into containers at the collections site. They are stored in coolers until the collection is finished. Beetle containers are dispersed equally to everyone that participated at the collection conclusion. If you are planning to attend one of our collections in 2018 consider bringing a friend or neighbor along. Beetle collections are open to the public and the more people involved the better chances we have of improving North Dakota's biological control of Leafy spurge. Listed below are our 2018 collection dates. *Note:* there are two collections each day. The first collection will begin at 10:00 a.m. MST and the second will start at 1 p.m. MST.

Franks Creek

June 19th

June 27th

Wannagan Creek

June 21st

June 28th



Dates will be rescheduled if weather is unfavorable and if beetle populations are still flourishing. Please check our website closer to collection dates for site directions and to see if there are any changes. You can also contact the BCWCB for additional information.

Keep In Mind

With the extreme drought Billings County experienced throughout 2017, there was a severe lack of hay. Several landowners and operators were forced to buy hay from other areas. This is a concern for the BCWCB because it could create weed problems in areas where that hay was fed. Spotted knapweed along with other noxious and invasive weeds may have been brought in with hay. There are different weed problems throughout North Dakota and neighboring states that may now occur in Billings County due to hay being brought in. Please monitor your feeding ground in the spring and throughout the summer. Contact the BCWCB or your local NDSU Extension if you see any plants you are unfamiliar with or need help identifying.

Spotted Knapweed plants located along I 94 North of Medora.



The Billings County Weed Control Board is focused on providing high-quality service and customer satisfaction. “We take pride in helping our local landowners maintain and control noxious weed populations.” We would like to thank everyone involved with the control of noxious weeds in our County!

To find out more about the BCWCB please visit us on the web at www.bcwcb.com