

## Canadian Thistle *Cirsium arvense* (L.) Scop.



**Description:** Canada thistle is an herbaceous perennial in the aster family (asteraceae) with erect stems 1 1/2—4 feet tall, prickly leaves and an extensive creeping rootstock. Stems are branched, often slightly hairy, and ridged.

One plant can produce 1,500 to 5,000 seeds that are capable of germinating eight to ten days after flowers open.

Fibrous tap roots may extend 6 feet deep.

**Control:** Repeated mowing and selective cutting close to the ground can reduce infestations. Cutting should be done at least 3 times per year. It can also be effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides.

## Wormwood *Artimisia absinthium*



**Description:** Perennial -1.5 to 5 feet tall. Leaves are grayish-green, lower leaves are divided 2-3 times in narrow segments, upper leaves are lance-shaped, leaf edges are smooth. Flowers are grayish green, inconspicuous and occur in nodding clusters in the leaf axils of the upper leaves. Plant appears shrub-like and has a sage-like odor. Reproduces primarily by seeds and sometimes roots.

### Life Cycle of Weeds

Annuals—complete their life cycle in one growing season

Biennials—complete their life cycle in two growing seasons

Perennials—Live three or more years.

## Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant

The Red Lake County SWCD applied for and received \$36,000 in grant funds, from the MN Board of Water & Soil Resources, to establish a Cooperative Weed Management Program. The main focus of this program is to reduce and/or eradicate Invasive Species in Red Lake County.

A Cooperative Weed Management Team has been formed to make decisions on what weeds will be targeted, how the funding will be dispersed, and oversee the implementation of the program.

Cost share assistance will be provided to landowners at a rate of 75% of the cost of the chemical not to exceed a maximum of \$500.00 per landowner. If a commercial applicator needs to be hired that expense can also be covered by the 75% cost share but the maximum amount will still remain \$500.00 per landowner. Funds must be spent by January 15, 2010.

Applications can be picked up at the Red Lake County SWCD office. Landowners will need to identify species type, location, size of the area, and have a cost estimate of the price of the chemical they will need.

Applications will need to be approved by the Red Lake County SWCD board. Applicants will be notified whether or not they have been approved.

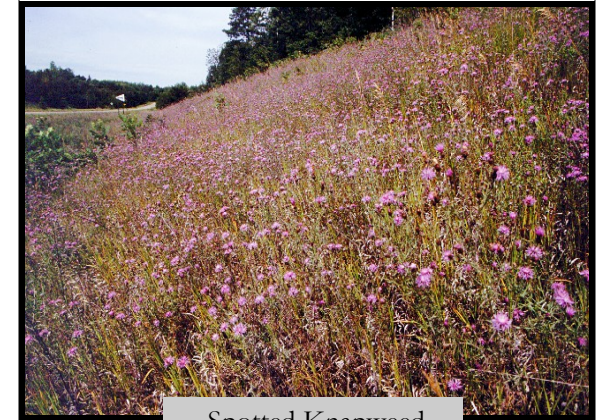
Red Lake County SWCD  
Tanya Hanson, District Manager  
2602 Wheat Drive  
Red Lake Falls, MN 56750

Phone: 218-253-2593  
Fax: 218-253-4112  
E-mail: [tanya.hanson@mn.nacdnet.net](mailto:tanya.hanson@mn.nacdnet.net)

## Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant

to assist in controlling

## Invasive Plants in Red Lake County



Spotted Knapweed

Red Lake County  
Soil & Water Conservation District  
2602 Wheat Drive  
Red Lake Falls, MN 56750  
218-253-2593

Grant provided by MN Board of Water & Soil Resources

**If you have these priority weeds on your property you can apply for cost share assistance to help you control them.**

**Spotted Knapweed** *Centaurea maculosa*



UGA1459270

**Description:** Biennial or short lived perennial. Spotted knapweed **produces a toxin via the roots that kills plants within its root zone.** The plant can have one or more shoots up to 4 feet tall. Rosette leaves can be six inches long and deeply lobed. Leaves on shoots are smaller and finely divided, becoming smaller toward the top of the shoot, and are covered with fine hair. In mowed areas the plant will bloom and produce seeds at 4-6" high.

Spotted knapweed occupies dry meadows, pastures, stony hills, roadsides and the sandy or gravelly flood plains of streams and rivers where soils are light textured and well drained. Spotted knapweed seed may spread by vehicles, including ATV's, livestock feed, hay used as mulch, and contaminated crop seed, or gravel.

**Biological Control:** Spotted Knapweed Seedhead Weevil and Root Weevil.



UGA144230

**Leafy Spurge** *Euphorbia esula*



**Description:** Upright herbaceous perennial up to 3 feet tall. The stems contain a milk juice called latex. The leaves are bluish-green, narrow and linear in shape. Leafy spurge produces a flat-topped cluster of yellowish-green flower-like structures called bracts.

The root system can reach a depth of 21 feet. If the above ground plants are removed or killed, new foliage can be produced by both root buds and crown buds. **Toxic to horses and cattle, causes lesions and irritates mouth and digestive tracts.** Goats can eat it with no adverse affects. Leafy spurge grows primarily in pastures, waste areas and along roadsides throughout Minnesota.

**Biological Control:** Leafy Spurge Beetle.



**Purple Loosestrife** *Lythrum salicaria* L..(Lythraceae)



**Description:** A stout, erect, perennial herb with a strong developed taproot. The plant's flower clusters are spike-like and range from four to 20 inches tall, topping a plant that ranges in height from two to six feet. The four-five angled stem can be smooth to somewhat fuzzy. The leaves attach directly to stems at their bases, and they are opposite or in whorls, narrow or narrowly oblong, with heart-shaped bases.

The flowers are magenta, or occasional white or light pink, with five to seven petals.

**Habitat:** Purple loosestrife is found in wetlands such as cattail marshes, sedge meadows and open bogs. It also occurs along streams, riverbanks, and lakeshores.

**Control:** Large populations extending over three acres or more are difficult, if not impossible, to completely destroy. Preventing the expansion can be accomplished through hand-pulling new plants along the edges or spraying herbicide on plants extending beyond the main body of the population.



**Red Lake County SWCD**  
**Tanya Hanson, District Manager**  
 2602 Wheat Drive  
 Red Lake Falls, MN 56750

**Phone: 218-253-2593**  
**Fax: 218-253-4112**  
**E-mail: tanya.hanson@mn.nacdnet.net**