

Weed Identification and Control In Foxfield

This information is designed to help you identify common weeds, both noxious and nuisance, found in Foxfield. A characteristic of all noxious weeds is their aggressive behavior. Typically, they steal precious moisture, nutrients, and sunlight from the surrounding plants. Noxious weeds also affect local wildlife, invade open space, can be poisonous to livestock and horses, irritating to human skin and dangerous for pets.

This single leafy spurge plant if left unattended will quickly overtake an entire field.



The first step in conquering these weeds is education. Take the time to familiarize yourself with these weeds. Walk your property and determine which species are on your site.

Establish a control plan. The Department of Agriculture website describes in detail the different control methods that are effective for each weed. Keep a record of when these weeds first appear. Remember, it is imperative to treat the weeds before they go to seed. Be patient. Control of some weeds may take several years.

The four methods below should be used in combination to fight weeds.

Cultural - avoiding overgrazing, re-vegetating disturbed soils and maintaining the vigor of desirable grasses or other plants that compete with weeds. Use of weed free mulch and forage.

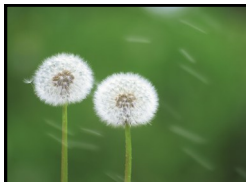
Biological - using livestock such as sheep and goats to graze on weeds, which reduces their vigor. It also may involve introducing a specific disease or insect to affect weeds. Biological control has proven to be effective to varying degrees on some weeds.

Mechanical-methods that physically disrupt plant growth such as mowing.

Chemical -use of herbicides.

The easiest time to control noxious weeds is when only a few plants are present.

Please be considerate of your neighbors. Controlling weeds before their seeds are mature will help prevent the seeds from spreading.



Please refer to www.foxfieldcolorado.com for a list of noxious and nuisance weeds. The site also includes photographs and detailed information on each weed.

Colorado Weed Management Association
www.cwma.org

Colorado Department of Agriculture
www.colorado.gov/ag/weeds