

September Newsletter

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Weed of the Month



Herb-Robert (*Geranium robertianum*)

Why Is It a Noxious Weed?

It poses a threat to the forest understory and to plant diversity in the forests of Western Washington. It is capable of growing under a full, closed canopy. Where it occurs, there appears to be fewer native herbaceous species. It can be seen around Jefferson County growing along roadsides, trails, and in a variety of forests. It can form dense clusters where all other plants are crowded out.

How would I identify it?

Herb Robert is both a winter and a spring annual or biennial. It is a low growing plant that is hairy and shallowly rooted. Plants have a pungent odor when crushed, earning its other common name, "Stinky Bob." It has pink, 5 petal flowers and the leaves are deeply dissected and light green. The foliage turns red in late fall. The stems are upright to spreading, hairy and turn red in high light conditions.

The fruit is a capsule. Seeds are brown and about 2 mm in length. Seed capsules are sticky and can easily get caught in shoes, pants, equipment, and fur.

How Does it Reproduce?

Herb Robert reproduces by seeds. The seeds are ejected in response to drying of the capsule. Reports indicate that they may be ejected as far as 15 to 20 feet from the mother plant.

How Do I Control It?

- Herb Robert is fairly easy to hand pull. Herb Robert has a very shallow, weak root system which makes hand pulling easy.
- Herbicide is also generally effective.
- Mowing also keeps it under control if done early in the season.

Please refer to the [PNW Weed Management Handbook](#), or our [Best Management Practices guides](#)



After the Smoke Clears

By Melissa Munson

With wildfires across the PNW, ecologists are already thinking about how to minimize noxious weed invasions after the fires are out. This article gives resources for addressing these concerns.

[Click here for the full article.](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

We get a number of questions regarding the laws around Noxious Weeds and what to do if you see a weed growing on someone else's property. First of all, thank you for your questions! We appreciate hearing from you because it helps us understand how to best serve the community. In response, we've created an [FAQ section](#) on our website with the most common questions as a quick reference.

As a refresher, here is the answer to one of our most common questions:

"There are weeds on a property next to mine which keeps infesting my property, what can I do?"

Each landowner is responsible for the noxious weed species outlined in the County weed list. The weeds on that list are classified as either Class A, B, or C which is indicated either behind the common names or in the list titles. **Class A** weeds are the highest priority and are required for eradication meaning you have to remove all plant matter immediately. **Class B** weeds are required for control meaning you have to prevent it from reproducing (which is most effectively done through eradication). **Class C** weeds are recommended for control but not required.

If you are concerned about weeds on another property, please feel free to contact us and let us know. We can contact landowners and help them with management strategies and inform them of the legal issues.

For more information, check out the [Noxious Weed Laws info](#).

Native Plant Salvage Returns

We are excited to get out and start harvesting native plants again now that the rains have started! A full calendar will be sent out later this month with events starting in October. [Click here to read more about the program.](#)



Upcoming events

Oh my, there are so many events coming up in the next couple of months! Here is what is on our radar. Click on the event to learn more. (If we've missed something, [please send it our way!](#))

[North Olympic Salmon Coalition Annual Meeting](#)

September 14, 5-8pm



[Jefferson Land Trust Donovan Creek Work Party](#)

September 26, 10am-1pm

[Jefferson Land Trust Chimacum Creek Picnic](#)

September 30, 11am-2pm

[Master Gardener Plant Clinic](#)

September 11, 18, 25, 1-4pm

Classes and Workshops

[Jefferson County Farm Tour](#)

September 16-17

Cost: \$10 suggested donation per car load -- No one turned away!

[Applied Wetland Science in a Changing World](#)

September 26-27

Cost: \$90

[WSU Stream Stewards](#)

Thursdays from October 5 - November 2

Registration due September 25th

Cost: \$150 -- Scholarships available

[Advanced Growing Groceries](#)

Tuesdays from September 26- November 7

Cost: \$88 -- Scholarships available

[WSU Cultivating Success: Whole Farm Planning](#)

Thursdays from October 19 - December 14

Cost: \$275 per farm

[Economics of Happiness Conference](#)

October 27 - 29

Cost: \$60-175 -- Scholarships available



Thank you for subscribing to the Jefferson County Noxious Weeds newsletter!

Questions, comments, concerns?

email: Noxiousweeds@co.jefferson.wa.us

phone: 360.379.5610 ext 205

[visit our website](#)

We've moved!

We are now located in the WSU Extension Office
address: 121 Oak Bay Rd, Port Hadlock, WA 98339
hours: 9am-4pm, Monday-Thursday

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