



Weed of the Month

Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*)



WARNING: [Giant hogweed](#) is hazardous to humans because skin contact with the sap followed by exposure to sunlight can cause [painful burns and permanent scars](#).

Giant Hogweed can be confused with two natives: [Coltsfoot](#) (*Petasites palmatus*) which flowers much earlier and is much smaller, and [Cow Parsnip](#) (*Heracleum lanatum*) which is also much smaller. Giant Hogweed, like Poison Hemlock, is a member of the parsley family, its most impressive characteristic is its massive size. Giant hogweed reaches a height of 10 to 15 feet when in flower and has hollow stems, 2 to 4 inches in diameter, with dark reddish-purple raised spots

Giant hogweed blooms from mid-May through July, with numerous white flowers clustered in an umbrella-shaped head that is up to 2.5 feet in diameter across its flat top. The plant produces flattened, 3/8-inch long, elliptical to oval dry fruits that have a broadly rounded base, and broad marginal winged ridges.

Giant Hogweed is a Class A noxious weed in Jefferson County due to its limited distribution in the state and the potential for significant impact to state resources. Public and private landowners are required to control this plant when it occurs on their land.

Removal tips:

- **CAUTION:** Please wear protective gloves, and clothing when handling this plant to avoid contact with phototoxic sap.
- Young Giant Hogweed plants can be hand pulled.
- Plants can also be repeatedly mowed or grazed by cattle and pigs without ill effect.
- If unable to remove plants, remove flowers and dispose in trash to prevent seed formation.
- Giant Hogweed resprouts from leftover root fragments, so be careful to remove all parts of the plants.
- For large infestations or further consultation, read our [Fact Sheet](#) or call our office at 360-379-5610 ext 205.

Eat your weeds!

A few unusual ways to get rid of common yard weeds...

We've compiled a list of recipes for getting rid of some common garden weeds in Jefferson County. Click on the photos for links to the recipes. **NOTE:** Make sure you have correctly identified your weeds before cooking with them.



Bee-u-tify Seed Packets are in!

Our Pollinator-Friendly *Native* Flower Mix for 2017

Your commitment to protecting our environment, economic resources, and recreational lands from invasive, noxious weeds does not need to come at the expense of bees, butterflies, and other pollinators. For 2017, we are pleased to announce that our popular Bee-U-Tify seed packets contain only species that are native to Washington! We have custom blends for both Western and Eastern Washington. While these perennial species require more tender-loving care than our previous blends, they offer lovely flowers that return year after year.

Important Notes:

- As a few of these native species are toxic to livestock, *please plant these seeds in managed garden beds where livestock will not have access.*
- Although all the species are native to Washington, the combination of grassland and rangeland species used in the blends do not necessarily

Species List:

- [Bigleaf lupine, *Lupinus polyphyllus*](#)
 - [Perennial lupine, *Lupinus perennis*](#)
 - [Blanketflower, *Gaillardia aristata*](#)
 - [Annual wild sunflower, *Helianthus annuus*](#)
 - [Blue flax, *Linum lewisii*](#)
 - [Camas, *Camassia quamash*](#)
 - [Gumweed, *Grindelia hirsutula*](#)
 - [Farewell-to-spring, *Clarkia amoena*](#)
 - [Oregon sunshine, *Eriophyllum lanatum*](#)
 - [Nineleaf biscuitroot, *Lomatium triternatum*](#)
 - [Globe gilia, *Gilia capitata*](#)
 - [Showy milkweed, *Asclepias speciosa*](#)
 - [Canada goldenrod, *Solidago canadensis*](#)
 - [Self-heal, *Prunella vulgaris* spp. lanceolate](#)
 - [Pearly everlasting, *Anaphalis margaritacea*](#)
 - [Idaho blue-eyed grass, *Sisyrinchium idahoense*](#)
 - [Western white yarrow, *Achillea millefolium*](#)
 - [Slender cinquefoil, *Potentilla gracilis*](#)
 - [Tall alumroot, *Heuchera chlorantha*](#)
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Chocolate lily, Buttercup, and Camas blooming in early May at the Kah Tai Prairie

[Master Gardener Plant Sale](#)

HJ Carroll Park
May 6, 9:30am

[Plant-a-Palooza Plant Sale](#)

Swan School
May 6th & 7th

[Routes and Roots](#)

Chimacum Grange
May 8th & 9th

[Jefferson Land Trust](#)

Donovan Creek Work Party
May 9th, 10am

[Interact Club Weed Pull](#)

HJ Carroll Park
May 9th, 3pm

[Irondale Beach Weed Pull](#)

Irondale Beach County Park
May 22nd, 9:30am

[Jefferson Land Trust](#)

Donovan Creek Work Party
May 23rd, 10am

[Visit us on Facebook](#)

[Visit our County Website](#)

Contact us by phone or email:

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Our mailing address is:

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