

BE PLANT WISE

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU GROW?



Oxeye Daisy
(*Leucanthemum vulgare*)

Why are invasive plants a problem?

- Displace native plants.
- Reduce biodiversity.
- Alter wildlife habitat.
- Decrease land productivity.
- Cause economic loss.



Orange Hawkweed
(*Hieracium aurantiacum*)

What is an invasive plant?

A plant is considered invasive when it is not native to a particular ecosystem and its presence causes negative impacts on humans, animals, ecosystems and our economy.



Toadflax
(*Linaria vulgaris*)

What can you do?

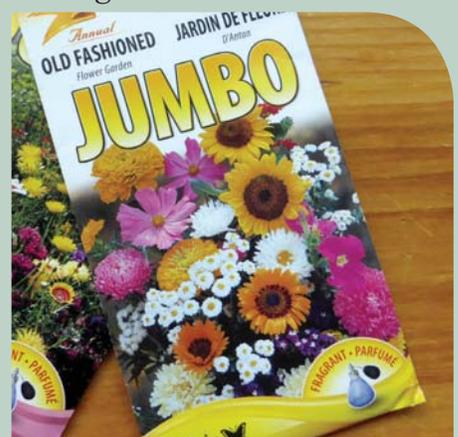
- Learn about the potential invasiveness of new species before you grow them.
- Purchase and grow only non-invasive plants and seeds.
- Properly dispose of invasive species, remove all of the plant parts and dispose of them carefully.
- Avoid letting invasive plants fruit or set seed.



Common Tansy
(*Tanacetum vulgare*)

How are they introduced?

- Through intentional introduction as an ornamental or food plant;
- By dispersal from one area to another by birds, wildlife, livestock, vehicles, and wind.
- Unintentionally, by disposal of garden waste.



Wildflower seed mix



Yukon Invasive Species Council (YISC)

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YISC
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GARDEN TIPS

Be plant wise!

Many invasive plants have started out in gardens due to their pretty appearance, fast growing nature, and their ability to cover up bare spots. See below for photographs and descriptions of common invasive plants that should not be planted. The cost of controlling invasive plants will increase as they spread.

Prevention is the most cost effective and efficient way to combat invasive plants.

Common Tansy

(*Tanacetum vulgare*)

This winter hardy species can be found planted in both flower gardens and herb gardens. Gardeners try to control its spread by digging out unwanted rhizomes. Unfortunately, Common Tansy also spreads by seed and can be found growing in vacant lots and along the edges of woods and trails. The plant can be a skin irritant and gloves should be worn when removing Tansy.



Oxeye Daisy

(*Leucanthemum vulgare*)

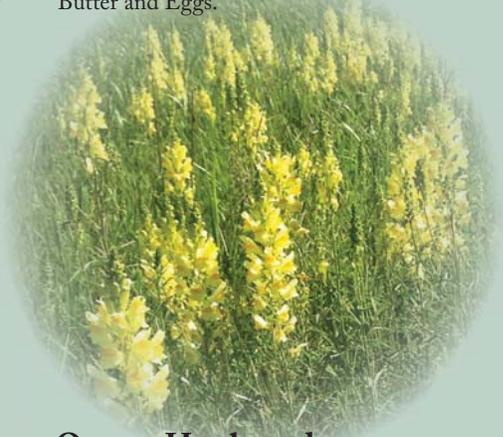
Although a beautiful flower and long popular by gardeners, this is an invasive plant. It has been introduced through seed mixes and sold as an ornamental used in gardens, but has escaped from cultivation and has become a persistent invader along roadsides and in most Yukon communities. Oxeye Daisy is difficult to eradicate because of its large seed bank, long viability of seeds and ability to re-sprout from roots if not completely removed.



Butter and Eggs (Toadflax)

(*Linaria vulgaris*)

Butter and Eggs looks non-threatening with its dainty, snapdragon-like flowers. It has been planted by unsuspecting gardeners, but if you've ever tried to eliminate Butter and Eggs from an area, you know how tenacious it can be. Plants can be seen growing on vacated lots in Whitehorse. Annual snapdragons can be used as an alternative to Butter and Eggs.



Orange Hawkweed

(*Hieracium aurantiacum*)

A small clump of Orange Hawkweed quickly becomes a large, solid mat of hairy leaves crowding out other plants. Don't be tempted by its bright, orange flowers. This species is not garden worthy, don't share it within the gardening community! This species is not found in the Yukon outside of gardens yet.



What can I do?

- Learn about invasive plants in your area.
- Choose plants wisely, and aim to plant non-invasive or native plants in your garden only.
- When encountered, remove invasive plants from your property.
- Deadhead (cut) flowers, seed pods and berries of known invasive plant.
- Dispose of garden waste properly. Instead of recycle garden debris containing weeds into natural areas, dispose of weeds in garbage bags and bring to the landfill.
- Buy "wildflower mixes" only if you know for sure that they do not contain invasive species.
- Only share non-invasive plants or seeds with fellow gardeners.
- Only transplant plants elsewhere if you know they are not invasive.
- Use "weed-free" soil.
- Notify your garden center if you find them selling a plant that is known to be invasive.
- Get involved with efforts to control invasive plants.

Wildflower seed mixes

Often don't list all species contained in the packets if there is a list at all. There is usually no indication that there might be aggressive plants contained. "Regional" mixes are not necessarily native mixes.

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