



Photo: Liz West

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*****NOXIOUS WEED ALERT*****

Purple Loosestrife

Purple Loosestrife is a hardy, non-native, invasive perennial plant that inhabits wetlands, riverbanks and other surface water corridors like irrigation ditches and canals. It is listed as a noxious weed in the state of Oregon and is one of 4 species targeted for control in Tillamook County by the Tillamook County Weed Control District.

Why is it a problem?

Purple loosestrife is an extremely aggressive invader of our riparian systems and a prolific seed producer. A single plant can release up to 3 MILLION seeds in a single year! Purple loosestrife can quickly form a monoculture that crowds out native vegetation.

Riparian systems are highly dependent on their associated plant communities. These plant communities support multiple species of birds, insects, rodents, fish and amphibians. Fringe habitat in riparian areas is also extremely important to larger animals like deer and elk.

Native riparian plant communities provide other services, too. Native plants help filter and clean our water as it flows through these systems and the benefits of good water quality are felt far beyond our faucets.

State Law

It is a violation of Oregon State Law to allow any state designated noxious weed to go to

seed within a Weed Control District. Landowners who have state designated noxious weeds on their property are required to take action. In Tillamook County, Purple Loosestrife is a target species for the Weed Control District.

What Can You Do?

The Tillamook County Soil & Water Conservation District, as the agent for *Tillamook County Weed Control District*, is asking for your help in identifying populations of Purple Loosestrife in Tillamook County.

As they are identified and confirmed, we can offer technical assistance to landowners with infestations. This may include treatment guidance, survey work and/or treatment assistance. All infestations will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

How Do I Report Purple Loosestrife?

Please call the Tillamook SWCD at: (503) 842-2848 ext: 103

-or-

Report Online at:

<https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/>



Purple loosestrife flowers on large, spike-like racemes up to 20" long. Flowers are pink/purple with 5-7 petals and stems have square edges. (Photo: NE Wildlife)



Purple loosestrife monoculture at Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge in Portland, Oregon. (Stock Photo)