

# 10 things you can do today to reduce the spread of invasive plants:

**A**lert the appropriate land management agency to any infestations you find .

**L**earn to identify invasive plants in your area .

**A**void traveling through or camping in areas with invasive plants.

**S**top new infestations. Pull weeds if the patch is small, bag in plastic, and pack them out.

**K**eep clothing, gear, and vehicle weed & seed free. Check equipment before going into the backcountry.

**A**sk your visitors to clean their gear before coming into Alaska. Many of the most destructive invasive species in the Lower 48 haven't made it here - yet.

**W**arn friends, neighbors, coworkers, and visitors about the threat posed by invasive weeds.

**I**ntest in certified weed-free hay and straw (baled with blue & orange twine, tagged "Weed Free").

**L**eave native vegetation intact. Pull only weeds that you can identify.

**D**on't forget - animals carry seeds too! Brush pets and livestock before and after backcountry trips to remove hitchhiking seeds.

## Three reasons to help!



**Canada Thistle**

Restricts recreational access and the movement of wildlife.



**Japanese Knotweed**

dominates streambanks, displaces native plants, and degrades aquatic habitat.



**Spotted Knapweed**

produces a toxin that kills surrounding vegetation that wildlife depend on for cover and food.

**Add your name to the growing list of groups working to stop the spread of invasive plants.**

**Your local UAF Alaska Cooperative Extension Office**  
[www.uaf.edu/coop-ext/offices](http://www.uaf.edu/coop-ext/offices)

**USFS Forest Health Protection**  
[www.fs.fed.us/r10/spf/fhp](http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/spf/fhp)

**NPS AK Exotic Plant Management Team**  
[www.nps.gov/akso/NatRes/EPMT/Pages/EPMT\\_Home.html](http://www.nps.gov/akso/NatRes/EPMT/Pages/EPMT_Home.html)





# You can reduce the spread of invasive plants into the backcountry and help keep Alaska wild.

## **What is an invasive plant?**

A non-native plant that spreads aggressively into natural areas and displaces Alaska's plants and animals.

## **Invasive plants can harm Alaska's economy and environment by:**

- Degrading wildlife & fish habitat
- Reducing water quality
- Restricting outdoor recreation and tourism
- Lowering land values
- Increasing wildfire frequency & intensity

Spread the word! Share this information with family, friends, and visitors.