

# TOLLGATE WEED ABATEMENT NOTICE

It is time, once again, to implement our yearly Weed Abatement Program. Those pretty purple-flowering Knapweed and yellow-flowering Dalmation Toadflax are very aggressive NOXIOUS weeds. The attached map of Tollgate shows the areas we found and removed Knapweed or Dalmatian Toadflax in prior years. Due to the fact the seeds can stay dormant up to 10 years, these areas will remain on the map and will be checked yearly. Given the history of these weeds, we are certain they will again be abundant in these areas and will continue to spread if left unchecked. If your lot is adjacent to a common area indicated on the map, please check and remove these noxious weeds.

We will be doing our yearly spraying for Knapweed and Dalmation Toadflax mid May to early June. Spraying days will be posted at the postal box area. We use Specialty Spray at 389-2919. Hopefully, we will be able to rid our community of these noxious weeds if we follow our proactive weed abatement program.

The time to abate these weeds is now - prior to them blooming – late April to early May! They need to be removed early, to prohibit them from producing thousands of seeds. The most effective abatement methods include:

1. Wear a long sleeve shirt and gloves.
2. Hand pull the weeds by early May, prior to the weeds blooming.
3. Place the weeds in a plastic bag and dispose of them in your garbage container.
4. Do not burn the weeds.
5. Spraying the weeds can be effective, if done prior to the weed flowering - late April to early May for Knapweed and late fall for Toadflax.

How to identify our unwelcome visitors:

Knapweed Flowers are purple, pink for spotted knapweed and white for diffuse knapweed. They have dark spots visible on the flower buds and heads. Leaves are short, narrow and covered with fine hair, small and divided at the base of the plant They grow close to the ground the first year and can grow to 3 feet in height the second year.

Dalmatian Toadflax Flowers are yellowish with an orange throat, may look like a wild snapdragon. Stems are smooth and gray green in color. Leaves are dense, alternate and clasp the stem, heart-shaped, green and waxy and the upper leaves are conspicuously broad-based.

For more information and colored brochures please contact the Tollgate office.

Our local experts are:

Maret Pajutee -Sisters Ranger District Ecologist - 549-2111

Dave Langland - Oregon Department of Agriculture - 548-2241

Dan Sherwin—Deschutes County Weed/Vegetation Manager - 322-7135



*Dalmation Toadflax*



*Spotted Knapweed*

# TOLLGATE WEED ABATEMENT MAP

The DARKENED areas are areas where we found and removed Knapweed and Dalmation Toadflax last year. If these areas designate your lot, we ask you to please check your property for these weeds and eradicate them.

