

**EAGLES NEST PROPERTY HOME OWNERS  
ASSOCIATION**

**2024 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

**To address  
NOXIOUS WEEDS**

PREPARED BY

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# WEED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2024

## Executive Overview

### OBJECTIVE/ PURPOSE:

The purpose is to identify and outline the: vision, strategy, processes, on managing toxic weed growth within Eagles Nest Property Homeowner Association; referred to as ENPHA in this document. This is an iterative plan and it is expected to be updated as best practices becomes inherent. Since the board members are volunteers and will rely on the expertise of a licensed preferred vendor in the process.

It is to meet §35-5.5-101, et seq., C.R.S., the Colorado Noxious Weed Act, for the State of Colorado. The state has mandated that “a countywide plan must be implemented by every county to prevent further damage by these noxious weed species”. This is ENPHA plan to meet those requirements.

### HISTORY:

The board of ENPHA and its sub associations is comprised of dedicated volunteers who strive to meet or exceed the expectations on meeting environmental requirements and concerns. This volunteer effort has a history of approximately 85% volunteer participation which is considered successful by any metric. It has been led by a board member of ENPHA who worked directly with homeowners and sub associations to negotiate spraying rates and timelines.

Annually each property owner is informed at least twice of the statutory and local requirements to control noxious, invasive weeds. The first chance to educate property owners is at the start of the calendar year when all property owners receive a letter setting out the noxious weed concerns and providing the property owner with a way to meet their obligations by participating in the ENPHA weed mitigation program. The second opportunity is when the property owner receives information regarding our weed reduction program at our annual meeting, normally held in March of each year. Moreover, our ENPHA website has a page dedicated to our noxious weed control program. That website also has a link to the Colorado Department of Agriculture’s noxious weed information page.

This has been an internal effort and not formalized in a plan format. This document is an effort to formalize the process.

### CONCEPT:

Noxious, toxic weeds in the high Alpine environment require a comprehensive approach. This plan encompasses:

- In excess of 800+ homesites, open spaces across multiple sub associations
- 13 Sub Associations and two neighborhoods include,
  - o Old Eagles Nest, Three Peaks (neighborhoods)
  - o Aspens
  - o Elk Haven

- Fish Hawk Landing
- Fox Valley
- Hideaway
- Homestead
- Osprey
- Peregrine
- Ponderosa
- Ponds
- Ranch
- Silver Trout
- Valley Green

Each sub association has its own volunteer elected board; which can make an annual decision to participate in the weed spraying program, or choose to meet requirements on their own.

**PLAN & TARGETED APPROACH:**

The target timeline and plan include:

- Q1
  - Questionnaire included in annual correspondence asks residents if they choose to participate in the weed spraying program that is led by a licensed contractor.
    - The list is compiled by the accountant on exactly who is participating in the program
    - The list is given to the Weed Coordinator of the Parent Board of HOA
    - The Weed Coordinator meets with vendor (s) to discuss process, applications and expected outcomes. Rough timelines are established
  
- Q2
  - Weed Coordinator meets with representatives of the chosen vendor for the project. (Current vendor is Neils Lunceford) Information that is shared with the vendor includes
    - A site map for sprayers identifying: open space, streets, house numbers and lot locations
    - A print out by sub association with participants for spraying program is shared.
    - Meetings ensue to discuss timing, signage, timing and documentation
    - During this process residents will contact the Weed Coordinator to change the list by adding or negating addresses as needed

- Weed spraying flags and signs are acquired and prepared for the spraying project.
  - Proper signage is essential for safety and notification of the residents; which is a high priority for both the vendor and ENPHA.
- Q2/3
- A spray start date is established. In 2024 it is approximately July 19, give or take a week.
  - On approximately July 19 the Weed Coordinator will work with the vendor Neils Lunceford to work with vendor on work and schedules: including posting signage and notifications
  - Once the first spraying occurs a second spraying schedule will be created based upon schedules and weather.

During the spraying process the vendor, Neils Lunceford submits the daily work accomplishments to the point person with ENPHA to ensure the designated contracted areas are covered to meet Summit County Guidelines.

**EXPECTED OUTCOMES & FUTURE ACTIONS:**

At the end of the process the ENPHA Board will discuss best practices and what worked well and what can be improved upon in the future to enhance best practices and created a closed loop process for feedback with a goal to limit noxious weeds while having financial responsibility.

It is expected that all the weeds deemed noxious to Summit County and within the confines of ENPHA will be eradicated. Weeds fall into several categories and are listed in detail in the subsequent pages.

## **INTRODUCTION/ OVERVIEW/DEFINITIONS**

### **I. Introduction**

Several species of plants have become a threat to the economic and environmental value of land in Summit County Colorado. These invasive species are non-native to the United States and have no natural predators or diseases to keep them in check. They are rapidly displacing native vegetation, causing a loss of native ecosystems` stability and diversity, while negatively affecting recreational resources.

Pursuant to §35-5.5-101, et seq., C.R.S., the Colorado Noxious Weed Act, the State of Colorado has mandated that “a countywide plan must be implemented by every county to prevent further damage by these noxious weed species”.

In 2000 Summit County hired a Weed Program Manager, adopted a County Weed Management Plan and organized the Weed Advisory Board (pursuant to Resolution No. 2001-18), for the purposes of fulfilling its responsibilities with respect to the Act and managing all of the unincorporated lands in the County with respect to noxious weeds. Since 2000, the Act has been revised and therefore certain provisions of the original Summit County Weed Management Plan have also undergone revisions to accurately reflect the provision of the Act.

### **II. Definitions**

All definitions used within this plan are consistent with the “Colorado Noxious Weed Act” §35-5.5-101-119 C.R.S. (2003) and the “Permanent Rules Pertaining to the Administration and Enforcement of the Colorado Weed Management Act” 8 C.C.R. 1203-19.

A. Act means the Colorado Noxious Weed Act §35-5.5-101-119 C.R.S. (2003), as amended.

B. BMP means “Best Management Practices,” which are techniques or policies that are recognized by science as the most efficient means of limiting or eliminating species of noxious weeds. BMP’s will change over time as more scientific information is provided for controlling noxious weed species.

- C. IPM means “Integrated Pest Management” and refers to different types of management techniques such as Mechanical, Biological, Cultural and Chemical control.
- D. BOCC means the Board of County Commissioners of Summit County, Colorado.
- E. Control shall mean to manage the populations of noxious weed species so that the population is maintained or reduced in size.
- F. County means the unincorporated areas of Summit County, Colorado.
- G. Elimination shall mean the removal of the seed source.
- H. Eradication shall mean removing the reproductive success of noxious weed species or specified noxious weed populations to zero and permanently eliminating the species or populations within a specified period of time.
- I. Rules shall mean § 8 C.C.R. 1206-2 the Permanent Rules Pertaining to the Administration and Enforcement of the Colorado Weed Management Act.

### **III. Summit County’s Weed Program (which is foundation of ENPHA program)**

Thousands of acres of land in the County are infested with noxious weed species listed in this document. Weed science experts estimate that weed populations increase 15 percent annually if no control measures are imposed. Such an increase in weed populations poses a serious threat to the economic value and environmental stability of the land and water in the County.

The weed problem in the County is of concern not only to the agricultural community, but to the urban, recreational and small landowner communities as well. Problem areas include roadsides, open space, residential subdivisions, municipal areas, private property, and state and federal lands.

The BOCC has declared that all noxious weeds listed below, and all noxious weeds identified in the Rules, be subject to integrated management in accordance with the requirements of the these regulations, the Act, and the Rules. The specific noxious weed species listed below have been identified by the BOCC to be present in the County, to be undesirable, and are designated to be managed in accordance with the requirements of the Act and Rules:

#### **CATEGORIES OF WEEDS**

##### **List A Noxious Weeds:**

**All List A** noxious weed species listed below, and any newly discovered infestation of other List A noxious weed species, shall be eliminated or eradicated in accordance with applicable provisions

- Myrtle spurge (*Euphorbia myrsinintes*)
- Orange hawkweed (*Hieracium Aurantiacum*)

##### **List B Noxious Weeds:**

**All List B** noxious weed species listed below, and any newly discovered infestation of other List B noxious weed species, shall be managed in accordance with applicable provisions

- Absinth wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium*)
- Black henbane (*Hyoscayamus niger*)
- Bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*)

- Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)
- Chinese clematis (*Clematis orientalis*)
- Common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*)
- Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*)
- Dame's rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*)
- Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)
- Hoary cress (*Cardaria draba*)
- Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*)
- Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*)
- Mayweed chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*)
- Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*)
- Oxeye daisy (*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*)
- Perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*)
- Plumeless thistle (*Carduus acanthoides*)
- Russian knapweed (*Centaurea repens*)
- Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)
- Saltceder (*Tamarix sp.*)
- Scentless chamomile (*Matricaria perforata*)
- Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)
- Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*)
- Sulfur cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*)
- Wild caraway (*Carum carvi*)
- Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)

**List C Noxious Weeds:**

**All List C** noxious weed species listed below shall be controlled at a level determined by this Weed Management Plan in accordance with the minimum standards of List A and List B species.

- Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*)
- Downy brome (*Bromus tectorum*)
- Field Bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*)
- Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*)

**IV. Summit County Weed Management Plan Goals (which are the shared goals of ENPHA)**

**Management and Prevention**

The primary goals of the Summit County Weed Management Plan, and therefore ENPHA, are to prevent the establishment of any and all new weed species, manage existing populations of List A, B and C species and to prevent the spread to previously uninfected areas in accordance with the requirements of the Act and Rules. In order to accomplish this goal Summit County Government, through the Program Manager, will:

Establish weed management areas.

- Identify areas requiring intensive management.
- Aggressively manage existing infestations to prevent their spread and reduce density.
- Establish BMP's for any and all environmental situations.
- Assist Home Owners Associations and individual property owners in managing their weed populations.
- Provide technical and educational support to the citizens of Summit County, Municipalities, State and Local organizations.
- Aggressively undertake intense management of any and all new species through weed



awareness education and rapid response.

- Comply with the provisions of the Act and Rules.
- Manage undesirable plants on County owned properties and right-of-way's.
- Initiate and maintain communications with landowners who are affected by List A Species and populations of List B species designated for elimination or eradication by the Commissioner of Agriculture, and carry out any and all oversight necessary to ensure compliance with the Rules.
- Provide property owners who have List A and List B species with technical assistance directed at eradicating those species.

**ENPHA Process to meet Requirements:**

Since the list of noxious weeds is extensive and the process could be complicated the board of ENPHA has chosen to hire a licensed vendor to eradicate the above listed weeds in a safe conscientious manner.

Niels Lunceford is a comprehensive Landscape and site management firm that was successfully employed in the past by ENPHA. Based upon their past experience they have been chosen to implement the noxious weed eradication effort in the year of 2024.

The process will be iterative and extensive to ensure the noxious weeds are eradicated and proper precautions are met.