



Waverley Council

Weed Management

Policy

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1. Introduction

Health, safety, biodiversity conservation and amenity can be seriously affected by weeds. Waverley Council is obliged to control weeds (as listed under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993) across the Waverley Local Government Area (LGA). Additionally, Council controls weeds that are not declared noxious under the Act but have a measureable impact on the sustainability of native biodiversity, aesthetics, and recreation value of remnant bushland areas, parks, reserves, streetscapes and roadways.

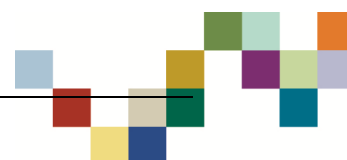
The Australian Weeds Strategy 2007 defines a weed as ‘a plant that requires some form of action to reduce its harmful effects on the economy, the environment, human health and amenity’. For land managers, it is a plant growing in a location where it degrades the designated land use, or a plant in a location that can readily spread to degrade other land.

This policy deals with weeds in the following three categories:

- Noxious Weeds; declared noxious under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993; and
- Environmental Weeds, that have a measureable negative impact on natural ecosystems within the Waverley LGA and therefore have the potential to be declared noxious at a future date; and,
- Urban Weeds, considered by Council to be pest species in public open space.

A full list of weeds in these categories can be found in Appendix A, B and C

This policy outlines Council’s legislative obligations to weeds control, and will guide Council’s approach and strategies to weed management.



2. Policy Statement

Waverley Council has a policy of:

- Controlling noxious weeds on public and private land within the Waverley Local Government Area (LGA) in accordance with the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 (NWA 1993).
- Creating awareness and building capacity within the local community in respect of dealing with noxious and environmental weed issues.
- Supporting and contributing to a regional approach to noxious and environmental weed management and control.



3. Objectives

This Policy has the following objectives:

- Prevent the establishment, restrict the spread and reduce the area of noxious, environmental and urban weeds within the Waverley LGA.
- Increase awareness, knowledge and skill in relation to weed management issues and techniques, amongst owner/occupiers on private land, Volunteers, Council staff and contractors working on Council managed public land within the Waverley LGA.
- Establish collaborative and cooperative partnerships with other Local Control Authorities, Government Agencies and other landholders in support of a regional approach to weed control that is consistent with regional plans and strategies.
- Contribute towards meeting targets outlined in Waverley Together Strategic Plan and Waverley Council Environmental Action Plan (EAP2).

3.1 SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- All private land within the Waverley LGA.
- All Council owned and managed land

Council does not have obligations under the NWA 1993 for land owned by other public authorities (such as State Rail) or land under the control of another Local Control Authority.



4. Legislative context

Council has been delegated statutory responsibility and powers with respect to weed management under the NSW Noxious Weed Act, 1993.

The objects of this Act are as follows:

- (a) to reduce the negative impact of weeds on the economy, community and environment of this State by establishing control mechanisms to:
 - (i) Prevent the establishment in this State of significant new weeds, and
 - (ii) Restrict the spread in this State of existing significant weeds, and
 - (iii) Reduce the area in this State of existing significant weeds,
- (b) to provide for the monitoring of and reporting on the effectiveness of the management of weeds in this State.

4.1 NOXIOUS WEEDS

Noxious weeds are categorised into five weed classes that require varying levels of control, as outlined in the table following.

Weed Class	Title	Description	Control
Class 1	State Prohibited Weeds	Plants that pose a potentially serious threat to primary production or the environment and are not present in the State or are present only to a limited extent	<i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and the land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Class 2	Regionally Prohibited Weeds	Plants that pose a potentially serious threat to primary production or the environment of a region to which the order applies and are not present in the region or are present only to a limited extent.	<i>The plant must be eradicated from the land and the land must be kept free of the plant</i>
Class 3	Regionally Controlled Weeds	Plants that pose a serious threat to primary production or the environment of an area to which the order applies, are not widely distributed in the area and are likely to spread in the area or to another area.	<i>The plant must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed</i>
Class 4	Locally Controlled Weeds	Plants that pose a threat to primary production, the environment or human health, are widely distributed in an area to which the order applies and are likely to spread in the area or to another area.	<i>The plant must not be sold propagated or knowingly distributed</i>



Class 4	Locally Controlled Weeds	* Note: In some cases the following wording has also been inserted:	<i>The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its numbers, spread and incidence and continuously inhibits its reproduction*</i>
Class 5	Restricted Plant	Plants that are likely, by their sale or the sale of their seeds or movement within the State or an area of the state or outside the State.	<i>The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with</i>

A weed classified as a Class 1, 2 or 5 is referred to in the NWA 1993 as a **notifiable weed**. The control of these weeds has regional, and or national significance and any occurrences must be reported to the NSW Department of Industry and Investment.

4.2 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

This Policy provides the framework for Council's Weed Management Strategy (DRAFT), and guides the on-ground implementation of the Weed Management Strategy, and the Environmental Action Plan 2 (EAP2).



5. Strategic Framework

Weed management in the Waverley Local Government Area can be classified under four approaches: Prevention, Eradication, Containment and Asset Protection, as shown in table 1 below. This approach reflects national, regional, and state weed management strategies, and can be used to describe a management response to a specific local situation. Different strategies are appropriate at different stages of invasion.

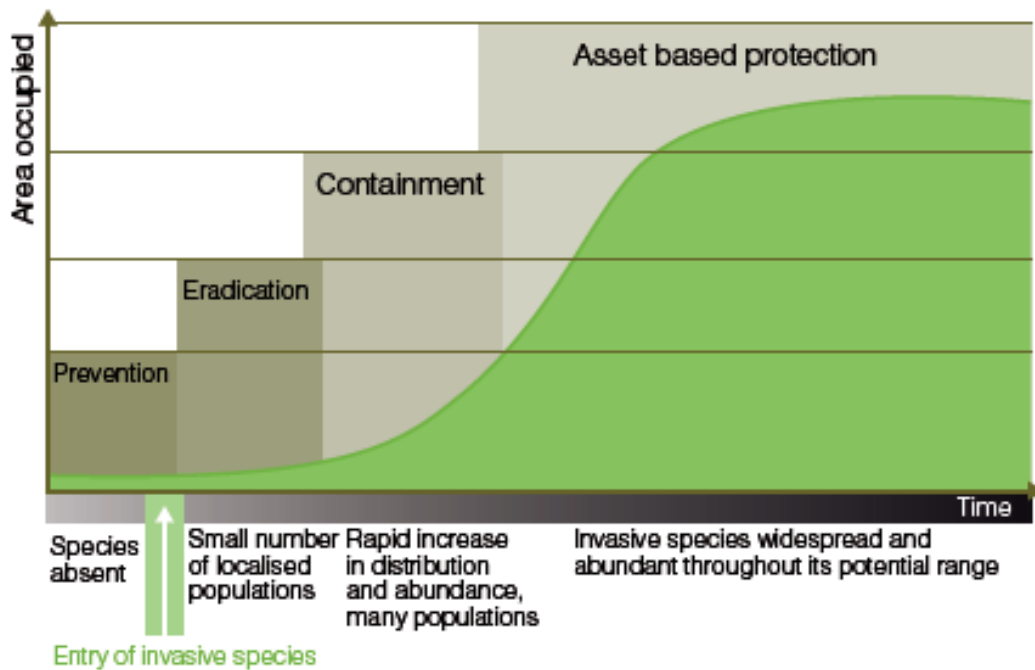


Table 1. Weed management Framework (Hobbs & Humphries 1995 in DSE 2007).



6. Definitions

Environmental weed – plants considered to impact negatively natural systems such as in remnant bushland areas within the Waverley LGA. It is a plant species identified by Council as constantly causing public and private nuisance. Many environmental weeds that impact upon the sustainability of natural ecosystems have the potential to be declared noxious weeds.

Invasive Weed...

Local Control Authority (LCA) – Waverley Council is the LCA in the Waverley Local Government Area authority to implement Noxious Weed Act.

Notifiable weed – is a noxious weed in Class 1, 2 or 5, any new occurrences of these weeds must be reported to the Department of Industry and Investment

Noxious weed - a plant declared harmful to the environment and/or human health by law, and accordingly is listed under a current Weed Control Order of the NWA 1993 for compulsory eradication or control.

Urban Weed – is a plant considered by Council to be pest species in public open space. They are essentially weeds of streets and parks. Urban Weeds can be important because they are a) unsightly or b) can eventually degrade local infrastructure including footpaths, roads, nature strips, parks and reserves.

Weed – is defined by The Australian Weeds Strategy 2007 as a ‘a plant that requires some form of action to reduce its harmful effects on the economy, the environment, human health and amenity’. For land managers, it is a plant growing in a location where it degrades the designated land use, or a plant in a location that can readily spread to degrade other land.



7. References

Department of Sustainability and Environment (VIC) 2007. Guidelines and procedures for managing the environmental impact of weeds.

Muyt, A. (2001), *Bush Invaders of South East Australia: A guide to identification and control of environmental weeds found in South East Australia*, R.J. & F.J. Richardson, Victoria.

New South Wales Legislative Assembly (NSWLA) Hansard 1994. Noxious Weed Amendment Bill 10/11/2004.,

Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

UTS Centre for Local Government ,2001. Weed Management Investigation for Waverley Council

Waverley Council Delivery Program 2010-2013.

Waverley Council Operational Plan 2010-2011.



8. Appendices

8.1 NOXIOUS WEEDS LIST

The following weeds are declared Noxious in the control area of Waverley Council

Class 1 Noxious Weeds	
Common Name	Botanical Name
Anchored Water Hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia azurea</i>
Black Knapweed	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
Broomrapes	<i>Orobanche species</i> (includes all <i>Orobanche</i> species except the native <i>O.cernua</i> variety <i>australiana</i> and <i>O.minor</i>)
Chinese Violet	<i>Asystasia gangetica subspecies micranthra</i>
Eurasian water milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium species</i>
Heteranthera	<i>Heteranthera reniformis</i>
Horsetail	<i>Equisetum species</i>
Hymenache	<i>Hymenache amplexicaulis and hybrids</i>
Karoo thorn	<i>Acacia karroo</i>
Kochia	<i>Bassia scoparia</i> (except <i>Bassia scoparia subspecies trichophylla</i>)
Kosers curse	<i>Clidemia hirta</i>
Lagarosiphon	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>
Mexican feather grass	<i>Nassella tenuissima</i>
Miconia	<i>Miconia species</i>
Mimosa	<i>Mimosa pigra</i>
Parthenium weed	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>
Pond apple	<i>Annona glabra</i>
Prickly Acacia	<i>Acacia nilotica</i>
Rubbervine	<i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i>
Senegal tea plant	<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i>
Siam weed	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>
Spotted knapweed	<i>Centaurea stoebe subspecies micranthos</i>
Walter caltrop	<i>Trapa species</i>
Water lettuce	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>



Water soldier	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>
Witchweed	<i>Striga species (except the native Striga parvifolia)</i>
Yellow burrhead	<i>Limnocharis flava</i>

Class 2 Noxious Weeds

Common Name	Botanical Name
Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera subspecies monilifera</i>
Hygrophila	<i>Hygrophila costata</i>
Salvinia	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>
Tropical soda apple	<i>Solanum viarum</i>
Water Hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>

Class 3 Noxious Weeds

Common Name	Botanical Name
Alligator weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>
Bitou Bush	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera subspecies rotunda</i>
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
Green Cestrum	<i>Cestrum parqui</i>
Long-leaf willow primrose	<i>Ludwigia longifolia</i>
Ludwigia	<i>Ludwigia peruviana</i>
Pampas Grass	<i>Cortaderia species</i>



Class 4 Noxious Weeds

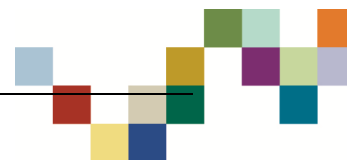
Common Name	Botanical Name
Arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria montevidensis</i>
Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus aggregate species</i>
Bridal creeper	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>
Castor Oil Plant	<i>Ricinus communis</i>
Chilean needle grass	<i>Nassella neesiana</i>
East Indian hygrophyla	<i>Hygrophyla polysperma</i>
Harissa cactus	<i>Harissa species</i>
Lantana species	<i>Lantana species</i>
Leafy elodea	<i>Egeria densa</i>
Lippia	<i>Phyla canescens</i>
Pellitory	<i>Parietaria judaica</i>
Prickly Pear	<i>Cylindropuntia species</i>
Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia species except O.ficus-indica</i>
Privet (Broad-leaf)	<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>
Privet (Narrow-leaf/ Chinese)	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>
Rhus Tree	<i>Toxicodendron succedaneum</i>
Serrated Tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>
St Johns Wort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>

Class 5 Noxious Weeds

Common Name	Botanical Name
African feathergrass	<i>Pennisetum macrourum</i>
African turnipweed	<i>Sisymbrium runcinatum</i>
African turnipweed	<i>Sisymbrium thellungii</i>
Annual ragweed	<i>Ambrosia artemisifolia</i>
Artichoke Thistle	<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>
Athel pine	<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>
Bear-skin fescue	<i>Festuca gautieri</i>
Burr Ragweed	<i>Ambrosia confertiflora</i>
Cabomba	<i>Cabomba species, except C. furcata</i>
Cayenne Snakeweed	<i>Stachytarpheta cayennensis</i>



Clockweed	<i>Guara parviflora</i>
Corn sowthistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
Dodder	<i>Cuscuta species, except the native species C.australis, C.tasmanica and C.victoriana</i>
Espartillo	<i>Amelichloa brachychaeta, Amelichloa caudata</i>
Fine-bristled burr grass	<i>Cenchrus brownii</i>
Fountain grass	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>
Gallon's curse	<i>Cenchrus biflorus</i>
Glaucous starthistle	<i>Carthamus glaucus</i>
Golden thistle	<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>
Mexican poppy	<i>Argemone mexicana</i>
Mossman River Grass	<i>Cenchrus echinatus</i>
Red Rice	<i>Oryza rufipogon</i>
Sagittaria	<i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>
Smooth-stemmed turnip	<i>Brassica barrelieri subspecies oxyrrhina</i>
Solider thistle	<i>Picnomon acarna</i>
Texas blueweed	<i>Helianthus ciliaris</i>
Willows	<i>Salix species, except S. babylonica, S.x reichardtii, S.x calodendron</i>
Yellow nutgrass	<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>



8.2 ENVIRONMENTAL WEEDS LIST

Environmental Weeds	
Common Name	Botanical Name
African Lovegrass	<i>Eragrostic curvula</i>
African Olive	<i>Olea europaea subspecies: africana</i>
Arrowhead Vine	<i>Acetosa sagittata</i>
Asparagus Fern	<i>Protosparagus aethiopicus</i>
Bamboo	<i>Aruninaria spp , Bambusa spp, Phyllostachus spp.</i>
Camphor Laurel	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>
Century Plant	<i>Agave americana</i>
Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster spp.</i>
Crofton weed	<i>Ageratina adenophora</i>
Fishbone Fern	<i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>
Gazanias	<i>Gazania spp</i>
Japanese Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>
Giant Bamboo Grass	<i>Arundo donax</i>
Lion's Tail	<i>Leonotus leonurus</i>
Madeira Vine	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>
Mickey Mouse Bush	<i>Ochna serrulata</i>
Mirror Bush	<i>Coprosma repens</i>
Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea indica</i>
Morning Glory, Coastal	<i>Ipomoea cairica</i>
Mother of millions	<i>Bryophyllum delagoense</i>
Moth Vine	<i>Araujia serciiflora? Hortorum?</i>
Noogoora Burr	<i>Xanthium occidentale</i>
Pampas Lily of the valley	<i>Salpichroa organifolia</i>
Panic Veldt Grass	<i>Ehrharta erecta</i>
Tree of Heaven	<i>Alianthus altissima</i>
Senna or Cassia	<i>Senna pendula var. glabrata</i>
Turkey Rhubarb	<i>Acetosa sagittata</i>
Wandering Jew	<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>



8.3 URBAN WEEDS LIST

Urban Weeds	
Common Name	Botanical Name
Buffalo Grass	Stenotaphrum secundatum
Celtis (Hackberry)	Celtis sp
Climbing Fig	Ficus pumila
Cobblers Pegs	Bidens pilosa
Common Couch	Cynodon dactylon
Coral Tree - Common	Erythrina crista-galli
Coral Tree - Indian	Erythrina indica
Coreopsis	Coreopsis lanceolata
Date Palm	Phoenix canariensis
Erharta	Erharta spp.
Fleabane	Conzya
Indian Hawthorn	Raphiolepis indica
Ivy	Hedera helix
Jasmine	Jasminum
Kikuyu	Pennisetum clandestinum
Palm Grass	Setaria palmifolia
Paspalum	Paspalum dilatatum
Pennywort	Hydrocotyle bonariensis
Rubber Tree	Ficus elastica
Silky Oak	Grevillea robusta
Spider Plant	Chlorophytum comosum
Vetch	Vicia spp
Wild Watsonia	Watsonia a meriana c. Bulbillifera



9. Relevant legislation, strategies and plans

Relevant state and federal legislation.

- NSW Noxious Weeds Act, 1993
- NSW Pesticides Act, 1999
- NSW Pesticides Regulation, 2009
- NSW Occupational Health and Safety Act, 2000.
- State Environmental Planning Policy No.19 – Bushland in Urban Areas, 1986
- NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979
- NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act, 1997
- NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act, 1995
- NSW Local Government Act, 1993

This Weed management policy has been informed by the following state, regional and local strategies and plans

- Australian Weeds Strategy 2007
- NSW Weed Strategy 1998
- NSW Invasive Species Plan 2008-2015
- Sydney-wide Vines and Scramblers Management Plan 2010-2015.
- Waverley Council 2011 Plans of Management for Class 4 noxious weeds
- Waverley Council Operations and Delivery Plans
- Waverley Council Environmental Action Plan 2
- Waverley Council Pesticide Notification Plan
- Waverley Local Environmental Plan
- Waverley Together Strategic Plan
- Weeds of National Significance (WONS) 2010
- Weed Management Guides and Strategic Plans
- Weed Management Investigation for Waverley Council 2011
- Weed Management Strategy for the Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority 2007-2011

