



# Declared Weeds

## Golden Plains' worst weeds

### What is a declared weed?

A declared weed is a weed listed under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*. Landholders are required to control the establishment and spread of declared weeds.

### What are environmental weeds, declared weeds and Weeds of National Significance?

Weeds of National Significance (WONS) are recognised as being Australia's worst weeds. Among them are Serrated Tussock, Gorse, Boneseed, Boxthorn, Broom, Blackberry, Bridal Creeper and Chilean Needle Grass all of which are found in Golden Plains Shire.

Declared weeds are those listed under the Victorian *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* (CaLP Act 1994). These weeds are recognised as a very serious threat to agriculture and the environment and the

legislation requires that landholders undertake control of these species. They are often also referred to as 'noxious' weeds.

There are 4 classifications of Declared Weeds:

- State Prohibited Weeds
- Regionally Prohibited Weeds
- Regionally Controlled Weeds
- Restricted Weeds

Environmental weeds are not specifically listed under the Act but still represent a serious threat to agriculture and the environment and should be controlled. Many Declared Weeds would have started out as environmental weeds.

### Who enforces weed control?

The Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR) is the authorised body under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* to enforce control of declared weeds in Victoria.

A Land Management Notice can be issued by the Department if a landholder is deemed to be inadequately controlling declared weeds on their property.

### Why won't Council make my neighbor clean up their weeds?

Council is not authorized under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* to undertake enforcement on declared weeds.

Council can assist by corresponding with landholders with a weed problem, reminding them of their legal responsibility and providing advice on weed control.

### Who has responsibility for control of declared weeds on Crown Land?

The land manager has responsibility for control of declared weeds on Crown Land. This may be the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), Parks Victoria or a delegated Committee of Management.

### Who has responsibility for control of declared weeds on private land?

The landholder has responsibility for the control of declared weeds on their land except for State Prohibited weeds.

### Who has responsibility for control of declared weeds on roadsides?

The road manager has responsibility for the control of declared weeds on roadsides under their management.

Council has an annual program controlling declared weeds on Councils road system. Contact Councils Natural Resources Officers for more advice on this program.

### Can I get funding to help me clean up the weeds on my property?

Council does not assist landholders with funds to clean up their property. Some Landcare groups have funding to assist landholders in undertaking weed control work usually on a cost share basis.

### I don't know what weeds I have on my property?

Councils Natural Resources Officers are happy to conduct property visits, assist with identifying weeds and provide advice on weed control.

### Where can I find more information on declared weeds?

The Agriculture Victoria website ([www.agriculture.vic.gov.au](http://www.agriculture.vic.gov.au)) has more information on declared weeds in Victoria.