

Deceptive Beauty: **PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE**

Purple loosestrife's beauty is deceptive: it is killing our nation's wetlands. A long-time problem in the eastern and north-central U.S., loosestrife has arrived on the Front Range.

In Colorado, purple loosestrife has escaped from ornamental plantings and now grows in wetlands and along streams and ditches. Look for its pinkish-purple flower stalks from late June to August growing among cattails, reeds, and other tall grasses.

Catch it early - getting rid of this perennial early saves time and money, as a mature plant is able to produce over 1 million seeds. Small populations can be pulled or dug before flowers go to seed.

Remove all plant material – roots and stems will re-sprout! Larger populations may need chemical treatments that are designed for use in aquatic settings.

Do not compost cuttings – place them in the trash.

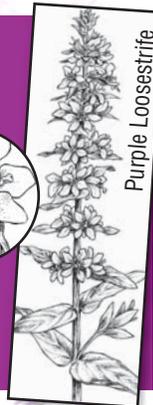
COLORADO A-LIST WEEDS

IN URBAN BOULDER

- Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
- Myrtle Spurge (*Euphorbia myrsinites*)
- Dyer's Woad (*Isatis tinctoria*)

IN BOULDER COUNTY

- Mediterranean Sage (*Salvia aethiopsis*) on public and private land north/northeast of Boulder
- Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*) on public and private land near Superior



Purple loosestrife is on the State of Colorado 'A' list. Weeds on this list are designated for eradication by the Colorado Department of Agriculture to prevent their sale and spread. Residents and agencies have a legal obligation to prevent these plants from reproducing by any means.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

on the species and pictures:

- <http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/aquatics/loosestrife.shtml>

on CO's Noxious Weed List:

- www.ag.state.co.us/DPI/weeds/Weed.html

or contact the City of Boulder:

- 303-441-1901



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