Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board
207 Fourth Avenue North, Kelso, WA 98626
(360) 577-3117

Email: noxiousweeds@co.cowlitz.wa.us
Website: www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/noxiousweeds

Daucus carota

WA – Class C Noxious Weed, Prohibited Plant List

Wild Carrot

Queen Anne's Lace

Family: Apiaceae

Origins: Native to Eurasia and North Africa. The Greeks and Romans used this plant for a variety of remedies ranging from anti-venom to love potions. Wild Carrot was likely first introduced to the Americas as a medicinal plant by early settlers in the 1800s.

Range: Found throughout the United States. Infestations are more dense west of the Cascades in Washington and Oregon.

Habitat: Commonly grows in meadows, pastures, roadsides, disturbed areas, and waste places.

Impact: Wild Carrot quickly invades open ground and competes with native grasses and forbs for resources. It can negatively affect commercial carrot production by introducing pests, and may cause poor seed production of commercial varieties through hybridization. Wild Carrot may also taint milk if dairy cows consume a large amount of plant material. Reproducing exclusively by seed, each plant may produce up to 40,000 seeds, which can remain viable in the soil for up to 7 years.

Description: Wild Carrot is an erect, tap-rooted herb that grows 1 to 4 feet tall. Although it can occur as an annual or short-lived perennial, the species is typically biennial, growing as a rosette of leaves the first season and then bolting and flowering in the second season. The plant is covered with coarse, stiff hairs. Alternating, fern-like leaves are divided several times into small, toothed leaflets. The plant produces a distinct carrot smell.

Small white flowers form flat-topped umbels, 2 to 4 inches in diameter. Often, one to several purple or pinkish flowers develop at the center of the umbel. Umbels are surrounded by a circle of finely divided bracts, and become concave as the fruits mature. Flowers bloom from June to the first frost.

Common Look-Alikes: Poison Hemlock, Water Hemlock, Wild Chervil.

** Wild Carrot is not known to be toxic. Look-alikes Poison Hemlock and Water Hemlock are highly toxic and may lead to death if ingested. Take extra precaution when identifying plants in the carrot/parsley family; many possess toxic properties.*

Integrated Pest Management - Control Methods

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) combines various methods such as mechanical, cultural, biological, and chemical controls to manage pests. IPM offers the possibility of improving the efficiency of pest control while reducing its negative environmental impacts. For more information, see the Cowlitz County Noxious Weed's IPM Resources & Strategy Guide or contact your local Noxious Weed Control Board to develop a customized IPM plan.

Continued…

Non-Herbicide Control

Mechanical (pulling, cutting, digging, etc.)	During the first year, hand-pulling or mowing when the plants are 7 to 10 inches tall can be effective. Frequent cultivation promotes seed germination, which depletes the soil seed bank and destroys seedlings before they can mature and reproduce.
Cultural	Establishing and maintaining healthy stands of native, desirable vegetation can reduce infestations.
Biological	Biological agents are currently not available for Wild Carrot in Washington State.

Herbicide Control: Foliar Broadcast Treatment

Metsulfuron (Escort, MSM, Ally)	**Timing:** Apply early postemergence to actively growing plants. **Remarks:** Do not allow spray to drift to sensitive crops; application sites differ between products; for best results, use a nonionic or silicone surfactant; do not apply near water.
Chlorsulfuron (Telar)	**Timing:** Apply early postemergence to actively growing plants. **Remarks**: Apply only to pasture, range, conservation reserve program, and non-crop sites; do not apply to the frozen ground; maintain constant agitation while mixing the product with water; for best results, use a nonionic surfactant; refer to the label for use in aquatic areas.
MCPA	**Timing:** Apply in spring or fall when the plant is actively growing but before bolting. **Remarks:** Annual treatments needed to control seedlings; seedlings are easier to control than older plants; avoid drift to sensitive crops; do not apply near water.
Flazasulfuron (Mission)	**Timing:** Apply pre- and postemergence. **Remarks:** Apply to plants less than 4 inches tall; must be activated with 0.25 to 0.5 inch of water for preemergence control; preemergence efficacy is best when applied to the bare ground; use an adjuvant for postemergence application; a 25-foot buffer must be maintained between the point of direct application and the closest downwind edge of sensitive terrestrial habitats, freshwater habitats, and estuarine/marine habitats; do not apply near water.

* Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board does not endorse any product or brand name. Brand names are listed as an example only. Other commercial products may contain the listed active chemical for herbicide control. Always read and follow the safety protocols and rate recommendations on the herbicide label. **The Label is The Law.**

This control sheet includes excerpts from the Written Findings of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board (WSNWCB), nwcb.wa.gov. Herbicide information from the PNW Weed Management Handbook (ISBN 978-1-931979-22-1) and product labels.