# WEED CONTROL

# Weed Management and Bush Land Regeneration

## Glossary

**Propagules**
Any part of a plant capable of producing a new plant.

## For more information


Ecoscape and EMRC, 2002. *Weed Control Strategy. Shire of Kalamunda and Shire of Mundaring.*

Brown, K., Brooks, K., 2002. *Bushland Weeds. A practical guide to their management. With case studies from the Swan Coastal Plain and beyond.* Environmental Weeds Action Network (Inc).

Moore, J., Wheeler, J., 2002. *Southern Weeds and their Control.* The Department of Agriculture Western Australia.

Wooroloo Brook LCDC and City of Swan, 2004. *Environmental Weeds. Eastern Plains & Hills Region.*

Department of Agriculture WA: www.weeds.org.au, Department of CALM: www.calm.wa.gov.au


## Weed Management

**There are three fundamental principles to successful weed management:**

1. Contain the spread of serious weeds and protect intact bushland. Consider the impacts of serious weeds on rare flora and plant communities.

2. Prevent new weed species establishing.

3. Consider restoration of degraded edges. Usually this is of lower priority than protection of good areas.

## Weed Management Practices

Aims to maximise the impact of all treatment methods undertaken. Firstly, a weed management strategy needs to be developed. Factors which need to be considered are

1. Area of infestation—size and site characteristics.

2. Order in which weeds should be removed.

3. Timing of control treatments.

4. Integration of different methods of control.

5. Replace weed species with native plant species.

**Minimise any possible disturbance by:**

1. Ensuring activities undertaken do not encourage the spread of propagules by always practising good hygiene.

2. Ensuring weeding does not encourage soil erosion.

3. Ensuring movement does not cause site contamination, such as Dieback.

4. Excluding stock.

## Bush Regeneration

**by the Bradley Method**

The systematic removal of weeds to allow native plants to re-establish themselves without replanting. This method involves the gradual removal of weeds so no large openings are created.

This method is recommended when working in *very good—excellent* and *fair—good* condition bushland (refer to 'Pest Plants' factsheet).

**Underlying Principles**

1. Always work from areas with native plants towards weed infested areas.

2. Make minimal disturbance.

3. Let native plant regeneration dictate the rate of weed removal.

**Developing Work Plans**

4. Prevent deterioration of good areas.

5. Cautiously move into the really bad areas.

**Weeding Techniques**

6. Disturb the soil as little as possible.

7. Sweep back the mulch surface.

8. Watch where you put your feet.

Please refer to '**The Weed Control Strategy'.** Shires of Mundaring and Kalamunda for more details.

## Control Methods

**Physical/Cultural control**

Involves the manual removal of the weed, by hand pulling, grubbing, grazing, burning, cutting or by the use of machines; cultivation, mowing and slashing,

**Ecological control**

Involves modifying the area so as to provide an environment more conducive to native plants so they become dominant over weed species.

**Biological control**

Involves introducing a control species which has been found to be a specific competitor, or predator to the pest species.

Its use is infrequent and is beyond the scope of this Fact Sheet.

**Chemical control**

Involves the use of herbicides for weed control. Please consider alternative options before using herbicides. Please refer to the 'Herbicides and Pesticides' factsheet.

**Integrated Weed Management**

The combination of more than one control method. In most cases, an appropriate mix of control methods will be most effective.


*In partnership with* EMRC, shire of kalamunda, Shire of Mundaring, City of Swan, swan catchment council, Swan-Canning Cleanup Program