

Responsibilities of Land Owners:

Under the Victorian *Catchment & Land Protection Act 1994* certain introduced plants are declared as noxious weeds. All land owners must act to control these plants.

This table describes the categories and required actions:

Noxious Weed Status	Distribution and Threat	Actions Required under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994
State Prohibited	A weed that poses a significant threat to Victoria. Removal is managed by the government, whether on private or public land.	Contact the Department of Environment Land Water & Planning immediately if you find one of these weeds on your property.
Regionally Prohibited	A weed that is currently not widely distributed in Victoria, but capable of spreading and is a serious threat. It is expected that these species can be controlled.	Control of these weeds is the responsibility of land owners. Action must be taken to eradicate these weeds from your property.
Regionally Controlled	A weed that is widespread in Victoria and is a serious threat. Continued control measures are required to prevent further spread.	Control of these weeds is the responsibility of land owners. Action must be taken to prevent growth and spread of these weeds.
Restricted	A weed that is widespread in Victoria and is a serious threat and has the potential to spread to another State or Territory.	These weeds must not be traded nor transported within Victoria. This includes selling and transporting contaminated stock feed, gravel or machinery.
Weed of National Significance	Highly invasive weeds with high environmental and agricultural impact across all states and territories, requiring coordination across Australia to control.	Control of these weeds is the responsibility of land owners. Action must be taken to eradicate these weeds from your property.

Urban and Rural Properties

Weeds are not only found on farms and in bush lands, but are present in many urban gardens as well. Most noxious weeds originate from escaped garden plants, so it's vital for all property owners to control weeds to eliminate further spread and problems.

Advantages of Controlling Weeds:

- increase the value of your property
- prevent weeds from spreading between you and your neighbours
- Claim a 20% rebate on your farm rates from Mount Alexander Shire.

Need Further Assistance?

Castlemaine Landcare
christinekilmartin01@gmail.com 0418 325 350

Castlemaine Field Naturalists Club
castlemainefnc@hotmail.com

Friends of Kalimna Park
friends@kalimnapark.org.au 0422 130 055

Suggestions for Replanting:

An integrated and long-term approach to weed control is required for success. Replacing weeds with indigenous plants can also increase the effectiveness of control works. Contact our local environment organisation 'Connecting Country' for a copy of their 'Indigenous Plants of Castlemaine' and 'Native Planting Guide', on 54721594 or info@connectingcountry.org.au

For More Local Weed Information:

Contact the North Central Catchment Management Authority for a copy of their 'Weed Identification Guide', on 54487124 or www.nccma.vic.gov.au.



CASTLEMAINE

Weeds and your Responsibilities

in the **Castlemaine Ward**
Mount Alexander Shire

Noxious weeds are a major threat to primary industry and the environment.

This guide:

- gives examples of some likely weeds you will find in your locality
- provides information about your responsibilities as a landowner to control these weeds

These are just some of the weeds you might find on your property. For further information about noxious weeds contact Agriculture Victoria (agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/pest-diseases-and-weeds) Weed photographs and information courtesy of North Central Catchment Management Authority "Weed Identification Guide, 2012" and Bonnie Humphreys.



Bridal Creeper (*Myrisphyllum asparagoides*)

Weed Status: Restricted Weed & Weed of National Significance

Climber with slender, twining stems to 3m long with glossy green, alternate, oval leaves & extensive root system. Greenish-white flowers in Aug/Sept & round, red sticky berries. Seeds spread by animals, water and vehicles.

Control Actions: Spray foliage with herbicide, or Manual digging or Mechanical removal.



Cootamundra Wattle (*Acacia baileyana*)

Weed Status: Emerging Environmental Weed

Shrub to 10m tall with smooth grey-brown bark. Silvery blue-grey foliage. 2-6 pairs leaf branches, each side axes divided into 8-24 pairs small leaflets. Golden globular fragrant flowers (June-Sept). Flat long seed pods. Seeds spread by water, animals & wind.

Control Actions: Spray foliage or stem inject with herbicide or Cut & paint stump with herbicide.



Soursob (*Oxalis pes-caprae*)

Weed Status: Restricted Weed

Perennial herb with stems ending in clusters of flowers. Leaves are heart shaped, located at the base of plant & green or purple flecked on top. Flowers are bright yellow and trumpet shaped, in winter-early spring. Reproduces vegetatively through bulbs on the roots. Spread by cultivation & contaminated soil & garden waste.

Control Actions: Spray foliage with herbicide.



Cape Broom (*Genista monspessulana*)

Weed Status: Restricted Weed & Weed of National Significance

Erect evergreen shrub to 3m tall. Short stalked leaves of 3 leaflets. Bright yellow pea-like flowers in clusters up to 9 in late winter – spring. Silky black or brown pods contain 5-8 seeds, ejected on hot days. Seed spread by vehicles & contaminated soil.

Control Actions: Spray foliage with herbicide, or Manual digging or Mechanical removal.



Gazania (*Gazania linearis*)

Weed Status: Emerging Environmental Weed

Rosette-forming perennial herb. Green-grey leaves are leathery & lance-shaped. Large daisy-like flowers in brilliant shades of yellow, orange & pink, usually with variegation on petals, in late spring & summer. Seeds spread by water & wind.

Control Actions: Spray foliage with herbicide or Manual digging.



Thistles (e.g. *Artichoke* and *Golden*)

Weed Status: Regionally Controlled/Prohibited Weeds

Spiky herbs, usually with several strongly ribbed stems covered in hairs. Grey-green leaves with underneath thickly covered in hairs & deeply toothed ending in sharp spines. Purple flower at end of stem surrounded by stiff spines, during summer. Spread by water, wind, animals & vehicles.

Control Actions: Spray foliage with herbicide or Mechanical removal.



Chilean Needle Grass (*Nassella neesiana*)

Weed Status: Restricted Weed & Weed of National Significance

Tussock grass grows to 1m tall. Narrow, hairless, flat or slightly in-rolled leaves to 30cm long. Crown consists of sheath encircling the base of the awn, which is bent at 2 points. Seed is brown, warty, hairless to 10mm long, with purple bracts around seed. Spread by animals, vehicles, cultivation, slashing/mowing, grain/fodder.

Control Actions: Spray foliage with herbicide or Manual digging.



Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*)

Weed Status: Regionally Prohibited & Weed of National Significance

Much branched shrub to 4m tall with woody, spiny stems. Dark green, narrow, spiny leaves. Bright yellow pea-like flowers during July/Oct and March/May. Spread by animals, water or contaminated soil.

Control Actions: Spray foliage with herbicide, Cut & paint with herbicide or Mechanical removal.



Wheel Cactus (*Opuntia robusta*)

Weed Status: Regionally Prohibited & Weed of National Significance

Blue/green erect cactus to 3m tall. Large, flat, round pads with many spines. Yellow flowers & dark red fruit in spring/summer. Seeds spread by birds, animals & water. Regrows from plant segments.

Control Actions: Direct Injection of herbicide or Manual digging then burying or burning.