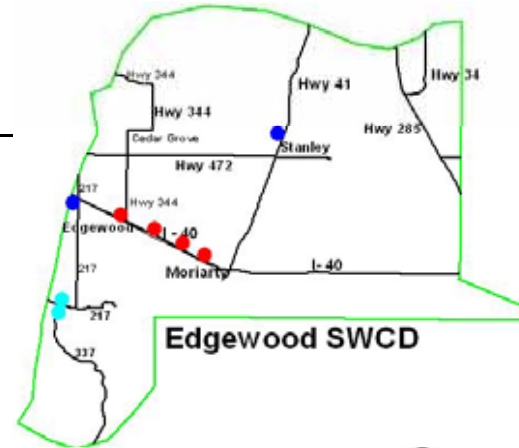
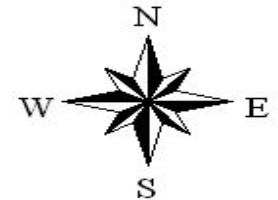
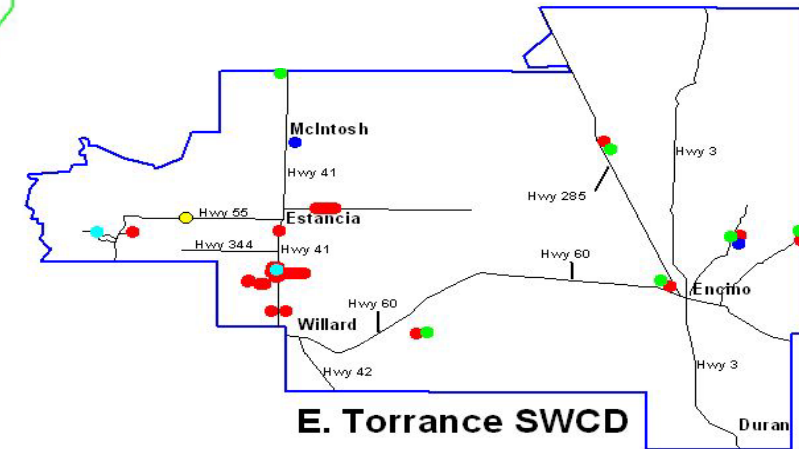


# Got WEED?

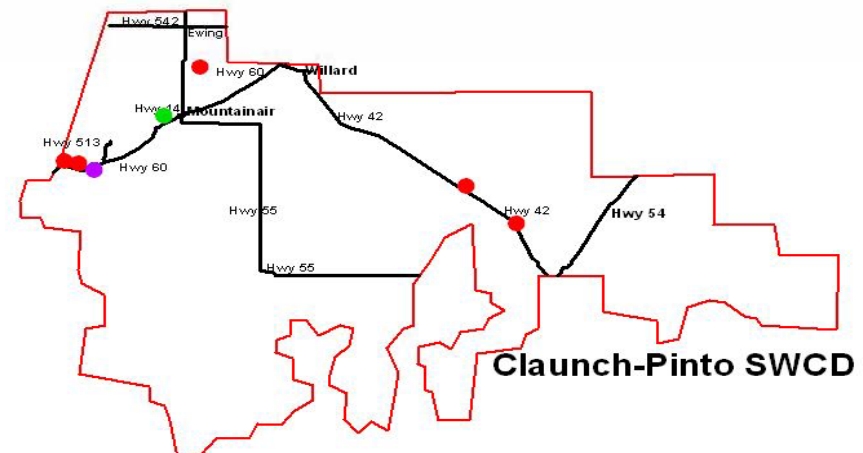
- Canadian Thistle
- Hoary Cress
- Musk Thistle
- Perennial Pepperweed
- Russian Knapweed
- Scotch Thistle



Edgewood SWCD



E. Torrance SWCD



Claunch-Pinto SWCD

The term “**weed**” means different things to different people. In the broadest sense, it is any plant growing where it is not wanted. Weeds can be native or nonnative, invasive or non-invasive, and noxious or not noxious. Legally, a noxious weed is any plant designated by a Federal, state or county government as injurious to public health, agriculture, recreation, wildlife or property. **Invasive weeds destroy wildlife habitat, reduce opportunities for hunting, fishing, camping and other recreational activities, reduce plant and animal diversity because of weed monocultures-single plant species that overrun all others in an area, cost millions of dollars in treatment and loss of productivity to private land owners. One seed from a noxious weed can spread so fast that it can take over your pasture, crop, and piece of land before you know that you have a problem. Weeds spread to an estimated 4,000 acres (over 6 square miles) each day on public lands; in fact, no one really knows how fast or how far they are spreading. Some of these weeds are harmful for cattle if grazed. Weeds also reduce land values, causing damaging economic impacts to local communities, and have a profound effect on ranching and agricultural operations because they can reduce production of forage and crops.** How can you help? Leave the plants alone and report all sightings to the **Central New Mexico Weed Management Area**; land managers, rangers, or conservationists: remove all weed seeds from clothing, shoes, pets, camping gear, and tire treads; and don't pick “wildflowers” or any plants. They could be invasive weeds. The map above shows where identified noxious weeds are known to be growing in Torrance County. *Pictures of some of the noxious weeds are shown on the back.*



If you see any of these weeds please contact the **Central New Mexico Weed Management Area** at East Torrance Soil & Water Conservation District at 505-384-2272 ext 103, Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District at 505-286-7700, Claunch Pinto Soil & Water Conservation District at 505-847-2243 (For a copy of this sheet please ask the management or call one of the Conservation Districts. Thank you.)

### RUSSIAN KNAPWEED

**GROWTH HABIT:** Perennial herb, up to 3 ft. tall, erect may be in dense clumps. Grayish color.  
**LEAVES:** Alternate, simple, of several types: Upper-small, narrow, unbroken edge; Stem Leaves- intermediate in size, slight toothed margin's; Basal leaves deeply notched. **STEMS:** Numerous branches, each ending with a single flower. **FLOWER:** Single, terminal, lavender, thistle like, scaly seed head.  
**ROOTS:** Dark brown to black and heavily scaled.  
**OTHER:** Leaves and stems covered with short stiff hairs giving plant an appearance of knap. Spreads by seeds and creeping rootstocks.



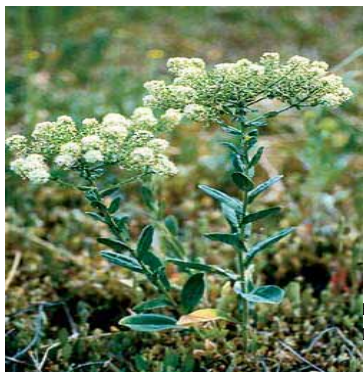
### MUSK THISTLE

**GROWTH HABIT:** Biennial, or winter annual, erect to 7' ft. tall. Freely branching. Rosette formed 1<sup>st</sup> year, flowering stem elongates 2<sup>nd</sup> year. **LEAVES:** Dark green with light midrib, hairless on both sides, long sharp spines. **STEMS:** Hairless. **FLOWERS:** Solitary, terminal, nodding heads, 1/12" to 3" in diameter deep rose to violet to purple. **ROOTS:** Fleshy taproot hollow near ground surface. **SEEDS:** Can be in excess of 20,000 per plant with 90% may germinate in first two years. Seeds may germinate after 10 years in soil. **OTHER:** Reproduce by seed only.



### HOARY CRESS(Whitetop)

**GROWTH HABIT:** Perennial herb, up to 24" tall, erect, becoming lodged with age. **LEAVES:** Alternate, lance-shaped and slightly irregular, grayish-green, base of upper leaves clasping stem. **STEMS:** Stoutish, branched toward top. **FLOWERS:** Small, white 4 petals; numerous flower branches and dense flowers give plant a dense, white, flat-topped appearance. **ROOTS:** Extensive horizontally and vertically, frequent shoots arising from root stocks. **SEEDS:** Reddish-brown, granular, egg-shaped, contained in heart-shaped pods. **OTHER:** Flowers early April-May Reproduces by seeds, roots stocks and creeping roots.



### SCOTCH THISTLE

**GROWTH HABIT:** Biennial, sometimes annual erect up to 8ft. tall. Rosette formed first year, flowering stem elongates 2<sup>nd</sup> year. **LEAVES:** Large, coarsely lobed, hairy on both sides, velvety gray appearance. Margins lined with shape conspicuous spines. Basal leaves up to 2ft. Long and 1ft wide. **STEMS:** Erect, branching, spiny leaf wings extend down onto stem, covered with dense fine hairs. **FLOWER:** Solitary, terminal, 1-2 inches in diameter, violet to reddish colored. Bracts pine tipped. **ROOTS:** Large fleshy taproot. **SEEDS:** Deep brown to black, distinctly wrinkled, 3/16 in. long. **OTHER:** Reproduce by seed only. Dense strands may be impenetrable to livestock.

### CANADIAN THISTLE

**GROWTH HABIT:** Perennial, erect, up to 4ft. branched tall. **LEAVES:** Varies from light to dark green,, oblong or lance shaped, deeply cut, spiny toothed margins (some may be smooth slightly hairy below. Tremendous leaf variability. **STEM:** Smooth to slightly hairy, branched at the top.. **FLOWER:** Small bristly clusters, 3/8 to 5/8 inch. into in diameter. Light lavender to deep rose purple: Plants are male or female. **ROOTS:** Extensive, fleshy, creeping rootstocks. **SEEDS:** Smooth, light to dark brown, tipped by a cupped conical point. **OTHER:** Reproduces by seed and creeping rootstocks.



### PERENNIAL PEPPERWEED

**GROWTH HABIT:** Erect perennial, numerous stems, spreading by seed and deep-seated rootstocks. **LEAVES:** Alternate, lance shaped, bright green to gray-green, waxy, smooth to toothed margins, basal leaves larger than upper leaves. **STEMS:** Branched, smooth, waxy, 1-3 feet tall. **FLOWER:** Raceme of small white flowers in dense clusters near branch ends. **ROOTS:** Deep-seated and spreading. **SEEDS:** Small, rounded, flattened, slightly hairy, 1/16 inch long, reddish brown **OTHER:** Deep roots make it difficult to control.



### DALMATIAN TOADFLAX

**GROWTH HABIT:** Perennial, often over 3 ft. tall, erect. **LEAVES:** Light green, alternate, broad, heart shaped, clasping the stem. **STEM:** Branching light green, smooth and leafy. **FLOWER:** Snapdragon type, bright yellow tinged with orange, to 1 1/2" long spur, born in upper leaf axils. **ROOTS:** Vigorous, deep and extensive, creeping roots. **SEEDS:** Numerous, irregularly angled. **OTHER:** Spread by seed and black, distinctly wrinkled, creeping roots.

### AFRICAN RUE

**GROWTH HABIT:** Many perennial that has an aggressive woody root system. Height rarely extends 1 to 1.5 ft. **STEMS:** Fleshy When crushed, the stems have a bitter, acrid taste and a disagreeable odor **LEAVES:** smooth, and divided linear segments. **FLOWERS** consisting of five white petals are borne single in leaf axils along the stems. The fruiting structure has 2 to 4 cells, with many seeded capsule. Primarily found in the southern counties, but isolated populations have been documented in central and northwestern counties.

