

Weed & Pest Newsletter

Changes to licensing requirements for prairie dog control

Licensing requirements for prairie dog control using fumigants have been revised by the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. As of February 1, 2025, applicators are now required to be certified in "Non-soil Fumigation pest control" to either purchase or use fumigants. These changes apply to both private and commercial applicators. Contact your local SDSU Extension testing center to obtain the certification.

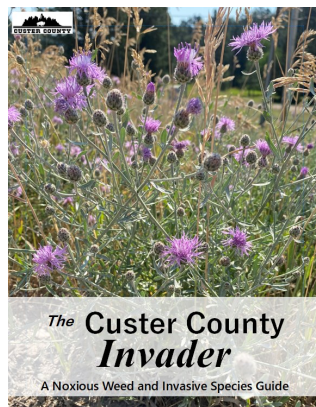
New species listed as locally noxious

Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*) has been added to Custer County's locally noxious list. This is a biennial plant native to Eurasia and can invade woodlands, roadsides, meadows, and pastures. Seed dispersal commonly occurs via its burs which become entangled in animal fur. The plant contains alkaloids that are poisonous to livestock causing liver damage. Human contact with the plant may cause dermatitis in some individuals.



New County Noxious Weed Booklet

The Weed & Pest Department is developing a new booklet that provides information on noxious and invasive weeds, native & non-native grasses, native wildflowers, and aquatic invasives. In addition, the booklet will include guidance on sprayer calibrations and maintaining spray records. The publication is still in development, but is expected to be available in May/June. Limited copies will be available for County residents at the Weed & Pest office and in the County Courthouse.



Cost-share funding available again to Custer County landowners!

The Custer County Weed and Pest Department is offering a 50-50 cost share on herbicide costs for noxious weed control within the county. Funding is limited and conditions do apply. Sales tax not included. Cost-share forms are available in the office. Note these restrictions:

- Herbicides must be used for noxious weed control in Custer County, SD.
- Herbicides can be applied by the landowner or a licensed commercial applicator. Labor, equipment, and PPE expenses are not covered by the grant. Sales tax not included.
- Exclusions include lawn care herbicides, dicamba, glyphosates (ex. Roundup) and other bare-ground products, pre-emergents, and chemicals labeled for crops only.
- Only purchases made in 2025 qualify.
- The grant cost-share form must be completed.
- Itemized receipts and completed grant cost-share form must be turned into the office by October 31.
- Grant funds are not available for use on row crop applications.
- Maximum reimbursements and other conditions apply. See office for details. Limited funding is available so landowners are encouraged to submit receipts early. Payments will be made in the order received.
- Please contact the office for questions about what may or may not be eligible for reimbursement (605-673-5680).

Need an applicator?

We keep a list of commercial applicators working in the Black Hills area so stop by or give us a call for a list of applicators. We do not make recommendations and only provide the list as a service to county residents. If you are a commercial applicator and not on our list, let us know.



Landowner responsibility

State statute requires every landowner to control noxious weeds on their land (SDCL 38-22). A weed is defined as any plant which the SD Weed & Pest Control Commission has found to be detrimental to the production of crops or livestock or to the welfare of persons residing within the state.

Every landowner should practice control as necessary to prevent the spread of noxious weeds.

Share Your Email Address

Help us save printing and mailing costs by sharing your email address with us. Send an email to WeedControl@custercountysd.com.



STATE NOXIOUS WEEDS

Canada Thistle

Cirsium arvense



Absinth wormwood

Artemisia absinthium



Perennial sowthistle

Sonchus arvensis



Leafy spurge

Euphorbia esula



Saltcedar

Tamarix spp.



Hoary cress

Cardaria draba



Purple loosestrife

Lythrum salicaria



OTHER NOXIOUS WEEDS - see Weed & Pest website for more information



LOCALLY LISTED NOXIOUS WEEDS

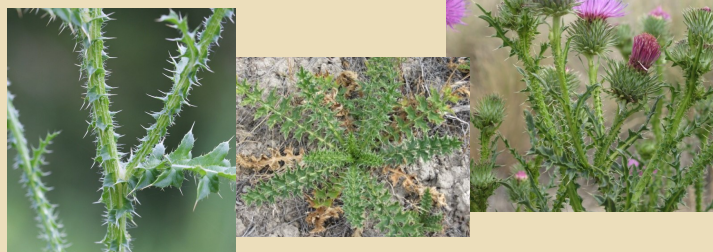
Black henbane

Hyoscyamus niger



Plumeless Thistle

Carduus acanthoides



Common mullein

Verbascum thapsus



Spotted knapweed

Centaurea maculosa



St. Johnswort

Hypericum perforatum



Houndstongue

Cynoglossum officinale



White horehound

Marrubium vulgare L.



Musk Thistle

Carduus nutans



Yellow toadflax

Linaria vulgaris





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Custer, SD 57730
605-673-5680

WeedControl@custercountysd.com
custercountysd.com/weed-and-pest-control

NOTICE OF RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS AND DECLARED PESTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN this 12th day of March, 2025 pursuant to SDCL 38-22 as amended to all owners, occupants, agents and public officials in charge of lands in Custer County, South Dakota, that they are responsible for the suppression, control, and eradication of noxious weeds and declared pests infestations that may exist on such lands.

Chemical, biological, and / or cultural control methods used for the suppression, control and eradication of noxious weed and declared pest infestations shall be those approved for such purposes by the Custer County Weed and Pest Supervisor, Agronomy Weed Field Specialist or the South Dakota State University Experiment Station.

Upon failure to observe this notice, the county weed and pest board is required to proceed pursuant to the law and have the noxious weeds or declared pests destroyed by such methods as they may find necessary, the expense of which shall constitute a lien and be entered as a tax against the land, and be collected as other real estate taxes are collected, or by other means as provided by law.

Plant and animals designated as being noxious weeds and declared pests in the state of South Dakota are Absinth Wormwood, Canada Thistle, Hoary Cress, Leafy Spurge, Perennial Sow Thistle, Purple Loosestrife, Salt Cedar, and Gypsy Moth.

In addition, Black Henbane, Common Mullein, Houndstongue, Musk & Plumeless Thistles, Spotted Knapweed, St. Johnswort, White Horehound, and Yellow Toadflax have been approved by the South Dakota Weed and Pest Control Commission as locally noxious weeds are subject to the same suppression, control and eradication requirements as the before mentioned plants and animals.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that upon establishing probable cause to believe a noxious weed or declared pest infestation exists upon any property in Custer County, a representative of the Custer County Weed and Pest Control board will enter upon said property for the purpose of inspecting and confirming that such infestation actually exists.

Custer County Weed and Pest Board