

**Chris Taggart**

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**From:** Montana FWP <montanafwp@announcements.mt.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 12:28 PM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners Office  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Invasive Species Awareness Week!



Aquatic Invasive Species  
**NEWSLETTER**



**NISAW**  
NATIONAL INVASIVE  
SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK

Join us in kicking off National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW), February 22-26th!

National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) is an annual international event to raise awareness about invasive species, the threat that they pose, and actions we can each take to prevent and slow their spread. "Invasive species are a global problem that starts at home," said Belle Bergner, director of the North American Invasive Species Management Association. "Everyone can do something to prevent invasive species from taking over agricultural and natural environments, and we encourage organizations and individuals to take leadership teaching their community about how to solve invasive species issues locally," said Bergner. Invasive species cost the United States \$137 billion annually in damages to crops, forests, fish, and other wildlife.

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks has joined the Montana Invasive Species Council (MISC) in a statewide partnership working to protect Montana's economy, natural resources, and public health through a coordinated approach to combat invasive species.



***Watch the MT Invasive Species Awareness Video***

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## **Noxious Weeds**

Noxious weeds are invasive plants not native to North America. Many of them, like spotted knapweed and leafy spurge occur in large infestations across the state. Noxious weed infestations decrease agricultural production and reduce forage for wildlife, increase erosion along streams and rivers, and decrease recreational activities. Noxious weeds can spread by many different ways; the main way they move around is through human travel. Weed seeds and plant parts can become stuck in the mud in vehicle or equipment tires, shoelaces and on clothing, backpacks, and hiking gear, or in the fur or hair of animal companions.

To report a suspected infestation of noxious weeds, contact your local county weed district or the Montana Department of Agriculture.



# COME CLEAN LEAVE CLEAN

MAKE SURE YOU REMEMBER TO:

- ARRIVE WITH CLEAN GEAR
- FEED CERTIFIED HAY
- STAY ON TRAILS
- REMOVE MUD & SEEDS FROM GEAR  
CLOTHING AND VEHICLES



*Watch the Montana Noxious Weed Video*



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