



## OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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## NEWS RELEASE

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Date: 4/27/15

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### WELD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS RECEIVES NOXIOUS WEED REMOVAL GRANT

WELD COUNTY, CO – This month, the Weld County Board of Commissioners approved a \$27,000 grant from the Colorado Department of Agriculture to the Weld County Department of Public Works Weed and Pest Division. The grant money will be used for the abatement and removal of harmful weeds in northern Weld County. The area to receive treatment is located along WCR 100 from WCR 13 on the west to WCR 145 on the east. Weld County will provide a grant match of \$25,726, and the United States Forest Service (USFS) Pawnee National Grassland and area landowners will contribute a total of \$15,100 combined in the effort.



*Dalmatian Toadflax*

Colorado law and Weld County Code require all landowners be responsible for controlling noxious weeds. In order to help with costs, Weld County offers a reimbursement program to landowners so they can continue working on the eradication of Dalmatian Toadflax, Absinth Wormwood and Russian Knapweed. A contractor will be hired to treat Hoary Cress on USFS lands and private lands.

"These plants are noxious weeds. This means they are not indigenous to Weld County, are very invasive and displace native vegetation," said Tina Booton, Weed Division Supervisor. "These weeds are not palatable for grazing livestock or wildlife. In fact, Russian Knapweed is deadly to horses."



*Absinth Wormwood*

"We focus on eradicating noxious weeds every year in Weld County," said Commissioner Chair Barbara Kirkmeyer. "The Weed and Pest Division has reimbursement money available to help landowners offset expenses of the weed removal requirement."

"It is important to remove these weeds," said Commissioner Sean Conway, coordinator for the Public Works Department. "As a Right to Farm County, we want to make sure the land is safe for crops, livestock and wildlife."

This project will last through October.



*Russian Knapweed*

For more information on the Weld County Weed and Pest Division visit [www.weldweeds.org](http://www.weldweeds.org).

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