Noxious Weeds

The term 'noxious weeds' includes non-native, invasive grasses, shrubs and trees, flowering plants and aquatic plants. The Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) created the Colorado Noxious Weed Act which was developed to create and enforce regulations intended to control these weeds. There are three separate lists, A, B, and C which categorize weeds by importance for control.

LIST A:

Rare noxious weeds that must be removed statewide.

- African Rue
- Camelthorn
- Common Crupina
- Cypress Spurge
- Dyer's Woad
- Elongated Mustard
- Flowering Rush
- Giant Reed
- Giant Salvinia
- Hairy Willow-Herb
- Hydrilla
- Knotweed
- Meadow Knapweed
- Mediterranean Sage
- Medusahead
- Myrtle Spurge
- Orange Hawkweed
- Parrotfeather
- Purple Loosestrife
- Rush Skeletonweed
- Squarrose Knapweed
- Tansy Ragwort
- Yellow Starthistle

LIST B:

Discretely distributed noxious weeds that must be eradicated, contained, or suppressed, depending on their location, to stop their continued spread.

- Absinth Wormwood
- Black Henbane
- Bouncingbet
- Bull Thistle
- Canada Thistle
- Chamomile
- Chinese Clematis
- Common Tansy
- Common Teasel/Cutleaf Teasel
- Dalmatian Toadflax
- Dames Rocket
- Diffuse Knapweed
- Eurasian Watermilfoil
- Hoary Cress
- Houndstongue
- Jointed Goatgrass
- Leafy Spurge
- Moth Mullein
- Musk Thistle
- Oxeye Daisy
- Perennial Pepperweed
- Plumeless Thistle
- Russian Knapweed
- Russian-Olive
- Salt Cedar
- Scotch Thistle
- Spotted Knapweed
- Sulfur Cinquefoil
- Wild Caraway
- Yellow Nutsedge
- Yellow Toadflax

LIST C:

Widespread and well-established noxious weeds in Colorado; control is recommended by the state and may be required by local government.

- Bulbous Bluegrass
- Chicory
- Common Burdock
- Common Mullein
- Common St. John's-Wort
- Downy Brome
- Field Bindweed
- Halogeton
- Johnsongrass
- Perennial Sowthistle
- Poison Hemlock
- Puncturevine
- Quackgrass
- Redstem Filaree
- Velvetleaf
- Wild Proso Millet

Noxious weeds are mainly scattered by wind, animals, water, and humans and can produce more than 10,000 seeds per year.