

THIS BOOKLET WAS CREATED TO ASSIST DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARK STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS IN THE IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEMATIC WEEDS. THE NAME "*DIRTY DOZEN*" WAS GIVEN TO THE TWELVE PLANTS THAT PREVENT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIVE FLORA DUE TO THEIR HIGH REPRODUCTIVE RATE AND ACCELERATED GROWTH. THE "*DIRTY DOZEN*" ARE IDENTIFIED, ILLUSTRATED, AND LISTED IN THE ORDER THAT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE NATURAL ECOSYSTEM OF CHATSWORTH OAK PARK.

MAIN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THIS BOOKLET

- 1) Support and restore the natural ecosystem found in **Chatsworth Oak Park** through the management and control of invasive plants.
- 2) To establish an Integrated Pest Management Program specific to Chatsworth Oak Park.
- 3) Build valuable resources for Department of Recreation and Parks staff and the public.

Some exotic plants, as well as native vegetation, with aggressive qualities may be considered a weed if it adversely affect the sustainability of the natural areas and encroaches into developed landscapes. Weed problems can be largely avoided by careful landscape design, soil preparation before planting, and adequately scheduled irrigation and mulching. Weed control can be achieved through a combination of the following five control methods:

PREVENTIVE: Preventive method is defined as keeping the weeds from entering or becoming established in the area. Monitoring the area for early detection of unwanted plants is crucial for the preventative methods to work. If a new weed is discovered, immediate actions need to be taken in order to prevent seed production and establishment.

CULTURAL: Cultural method is defined as maintenance practices that will make it difficult for weeds to grow or become established, (i.e., select proper plants for the location, irrigation management, and pruning).

BIOLOGICAL: Biological method is defined as the usage of living organisms for weeds control. Some of the organisms used for biological control include fungus, bacteria, nematodes, and beneficial insects. When available, biological methods are very effective in weed control.

CHEMICAL: Chemical method is defined as the usage of a synthetic or natural toxic product called herbicide for weed control. Selective herbicides are designed to control a specific group of plant. Non-selective herbicides such as 'Round Up' will control all plants. When using a chemical herbicide, it is mandatory to read and always follow what the label instructs.

MECHANICAL: Mechanical method is defined as the usage of physical force to injure, remove, and control weeds. Mechanical methods can be achieved through the usage of mowers, hand-pulling, hoeing, and burning.

CHATSWORTH OAKS PARK *"DIRTY DOZEN"*

Here is a list of the 12 weeds that have been determined to be of concern at **CHATSWORTH OAK PARK**. It was prepared as an aid for anyone who will become involved in the preservation of the native flora within the Park.

SCIENTIFIC NAME

COMMON NAME

Toxicodendron diversilobum Salsola iberica Brassica spp. Ricinus communis Centaurea solstitialis Paspalum dilatatum Marrubium vulgare Avena fatua Conyza bonariensis Chenopodium berlandieri Chamaesyce maculata Plantago major poison oak Russian thistle wild mustards castor bean yellow starthistle dallisgrass white horehound wild oats hairy fleabane netseed lambsquarters spotted spurge broadleaf plantain

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Toxicodendron diversilobum* COMMON NAME: poison oak



NOTES: Poison oak is a California native plant of specific value to wildlife. DO NOT ERADICATE!! Control plant in working locations and in areas accessible to the public only.

SCIENTIFIC NAME: Salsola iberica COMMON NAME: Russian thistle







SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Brassica spp.* COMMON NAME: wild mustards



SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Ricinus communis* COMMON NAME: castor bean









SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Paspalum dilatatum* COMMON NAME: dallisgrass











SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Marrubium vulgare* COMMON NAME: white horehound







SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Conyza bonariensis* COMMON NAME: hairy fleabane





SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Chenopodium berlandieri* COMMON NAME: netseed lambsquarters



SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Chamaesyce maculata* COMMON NAME: spotted spurge



SCIENTIFIC NAME: *plantago major* COMMON NAME: broadleaf plantain









CHATSWORTH CANYON PARK HISTORY OF THE PARK

Part of the Santa Susana Mountains range, with Los Angeles River watershed beneath, Chatsworth Canyon Park stands majestically overseeing San Fernando Valley.

Geologically, the park has a variety of locations that illustrate how time and erosion had influence the rock and canyon formations, including as well, the establishment of many tree, plant and animal species, resulting in a unique location for many types of ecological studies.

On the other hand, the park recreational side has an endless list of programs and activities to please any age/taste of the patrons, including sport facilities, bridal trails, as well as education oriented programs.

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