



## Weed of the Month

### Spurge laurel (*Daphne laureola*)



Spurge laurel is a slow-growing, shade-tolerant, long-lived evergreen shrub from Europe and the Mediterranean region that has escaped from gardens and naturalized in woodlands and other shady places. This plant is commonly used as a shrub in towns in Jefferson County, but has slowly escaped into our woodland areas as well. Spurge laurel can grow in a wide range of conditions, but it thrives in full to partial shade and well-drained soils. Its primary means

Jefferson County, which means that control is encouraged, but not required.

**CAUTION:** The berries, leaves and bark are poisonous to humans, cats and dogs and handling the plant can cause contact dermatitis.

### Removal tips:

- Small Spurge laurel plants can be hand pulled.
- Larger plants can be removed with a Weed Wrench (available for **free rentals** at our office or the Jefferson County Conservation District office)
- Spurge laurel resprouts from leftover root fragments, so be careful to remove all parts of the plants.
- For large infestations or further consultation, read our [Fact Sheet](#) or call our office at 360-379-5610 ext 205.
- **CAUTION:** Please wear protective gloves, and clothing to prevent skin from exposure to sap, berries, and leaves when removing.



## National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW)

OLYMPIA – Gov. Jay Inslee declared the week of Feb. 26 as Invasive Species Awareness Week in Washington State, noting that invasive species cost the United States more than \$137 billion annually in crop damage, loss of fish and damage to forests.

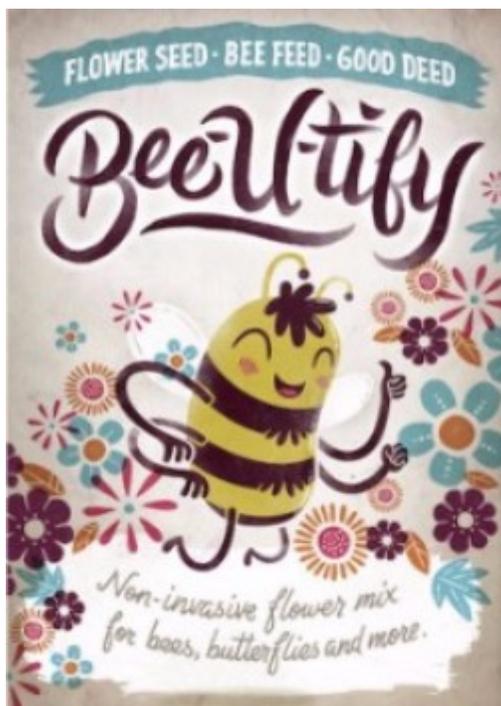
In his declaration, Governor Jay Inslee urged residents to help prevent the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species that are harmful to the state's economy, environment and recreation resources.

Council,” Inslee said. “Furthermore, all residents should play an active role in protecting our state’s resources, by remembering to clean, drain, dry watercraft and other equipment, to not release unwanted pets into the wild and to clean boots and equipment before enjoying the outdoors.”

A [2017 study](#) commissioned by Washington State agencies illustrated that the introduction and spread of 23 species alone could cost more than \$1.3 billion a year in Washington and a loss of 8,000 jobs.

**Source:** [WA RCO Press Release](#)

**Further Reading:** [National Invasive Species Awareness Week homepage](#)



## Bee-u-tify Seed Packets Available for FREE

Your commitment to protecting our environment, economic resources, and recreational lands from Noxious Weeds does not need to come at the expense of bees, butterflies, and other pollinators. To pick up a seed packet for your garden, please stop by our office at [380 Jefferson St](#) in the WSU Extension Office.

This flower blend is a fantastic way to attract pollinators to gardens and other landscaped areas and we'll be giving out these seed packets while supplies last!

**Learn more here:** [Bee-U-tify Seed Packets](#)



*We are pleased to announce that we are starting a collaborative Native Plant Salvage Program in Jefferson County! Stay tuned for a follow up email with more details on this program.*

[Spring Stewardship at Upper Snow Creek Forest Preserve with JLT](#)

March 10, 10am

[Spring Stewardship at Chimacum Commons with JLT](#)

March 14, 10am

['Reaching Blue' Film Screening about climate change in the Salish Sea](#)

March 17, 6pm

**Native Plant Salvage** (details to follow in separate event email)

March 23, 9am

[Native Tree Climate Curriculum with NOSC - Volunteers needed](#)

March 31, 7am

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[Visit our County Website](#)

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**Contact us by phone or email:**

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**Our mailing address is:**

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