

UNWANTED WEED BUTTERFLY BUSH



Photo courtesy of Tom Fomey,
Oregon Department of Agriculture

FOR *ILLEGAL OCCUPATION* OF HUNDREDS OF ACRES OF RIPARIAN AND FORESTLAND IN WESTERN OREGON, FOR *THEFT* OF CONSUMER DOLLARS THROUGH INCREASED TIMBER PRODUCTION AND CONTROL COSTS, AND FOR *DESTRUCTION* OF NATIVE WILDLIFE HABITAT.

An *INVADER SPECIES*, Butterfly bush is not native to Coos County, Oregon. It's summertime flowers might look and smell pretty, but Butterfly bush and other noxious weeds are environmentally and economically very harmful!



© www.paghat.com



© donnaandrews.typepad.com

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

- Avoid using Butterfly bush as part of your gardening landscape. If you already have it, follow the control strategies listed above.
- Contact Coos County OSU Extension for attractive, non-invasive alternatives to Butterfly bush in your garden.
- Learn more about weeds and the environmental problems they bring.
- For more information, call the Coos County Weed Advisory Board, through County Commissioner John Griffith 396-3121 ext. 248.

THIS
INFORMATION
IS FURNISHED BY
THE COOS COUNTY
WEED ADVISORY BOARD

NOXIOUS WEEDS CAN BE CONTROLLED.
IT TAKES COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION
OVER A FEW GROWING SEASONS. IT IS NOT
HOPELESS. SIMPLY DON'T GIVE UP ON YOUR
EFFORTS.

CONTROL

- Dead-head or prune plants in fall to control seed dispersion.
- Seedlings may be removed by hand—but be careful because butterfly bush loves to grow on disturbed sites.
- Cut the stump at its base and apply a herbicide such as Roundup (glyphosate) mixed with a surfactant—this helps the herbicide “stick” to the plant.
- **What's the best method of control?** Don't buy or plant butterfly bush in your yard!! And seed or replant newly disturbed sites with desired plant species BEFORE they are colonized by butterfly bush!

Butterfly bush is causing problems as it escapes from gardens. Like many invasive species, once escaped from cultivation, butterfly bush is extremely aggressive and does significant damage by overtaking desirable species and affecting the ecosystem.

Butterfly bush has recently been discovered in parts of Coos County and is a major concern in timbered areas. Most plants occur near and north of Coos Bay, within a few miles of the coast. In other parts of the county it is mostly found along roads.

Research trials for butterfly bush control are underway in Coos County. Results should be available from Coos County Oregon State University Extension Service next year.

Butterfly bush spreads in disturbed areas by seeds from plants that can reach maturity in less than one year. Each plant can produce 3 million seeds per year. These seeds can be spread great distances by wind, water, and vehicles.

Butterfly bush is taking over and dominating riverbanks in the Lake Oswego area where it displaces native willows that are essential for native butterflies.

Butterfly Bush (Buddleia davidii)