

Know Your Weeds – The following are Perennials that live on for 3 years or longer and are NOT recommended for composting (*Latin name*)

Black Bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*)

One of the most difficult of all weeds to eradicate. It has greenish pink flowers. Dig up and destroy every piece of root or, as a last resort, spray leaves with systemic weedkiller.

Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) looks similar with white flowers – if found please report to committee member.

Bramble/Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*)

Vigorous and invasive, with painfully sharp thorns. Roots are deep and must be dug out completely.

Couch grass (*Elymus repens*)

Invasive, spreading by thin brown and white rhizomes, each severed piece can become a new plant. Dig out by fork removing as much as possible and cover in black mulch – cardboard topped with woodchips.

Creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*)

A low spreading weed that throws out horizontal runners, producing new plants at each node. Uproot the whole lot.

Creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)

Its root system is so tenacious that eradication by digging it out may be impossible and a systemic weedkiller could be the only solution to the problem.

Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*)

Remove dandelion flower heads before they fade and release their tiny parachute-like-seeds – and always dig out the whole tap root.

Dock (*Rumex*)

Dig up the long tap roots without letting them snap or they will regenerate.

Ground Elder (*Aegopodium podagraria*)

Dig up carefully – this determined weed will re-grow from any stray bits of root left in the soil.

Ground Ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*)

Remove weeds by wearing gloves or use tools to remove before flowering and fructification. Deep tillage can remove bits of weed roots left in the ground. Mulching with straw or black mulches can effectively inhibit seed germination.

Nettle (*Urtica dioica*)

Dig out the roots of stinging nettles in order to eradicate completely.

Oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*)

Common weed in lawns and crop plants with strong fertility it can reproduce through its rhizome. Completely dig out its rhizomes and destroy them.

Velvet grass (*Holcus lanatus*)

Prolific seed producer, its shallow roots are easy to fork out.



The following are Annual Weeds that germinate, flower, set seed and die all in one season and can generally be destroyed by COMPOSTING (*Latin name*)

Cheeseweed mallow (*Malva parviflora*)

Pull out before weeds fructify and remove roots thoroughly. Deep tillage can remove residual roots at tillage depth 5-15cm.



Common chickweed (*Stellaria media*)

A low growing weed that spreads vigorously but has shallow roots which are easy to pull up.



Fat Hen (*Chenopodium album*)

Will quickly spread competing with your other plants for nutrients. Hand weed or hoe out seedlings, or smother them with a good layer of compost. Try to remove plants before they flower and seed to slow its spread.

Goosegrass or "Cleavers" (*Galium aparine*)

Spreads readily by seed and can be invasive in most soil conditions. The plants have tiny, hooked hairs that cling to supports. Dig up by the roots.

Groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*)

Dig up and remove before the fluffy, dandelion-like seed heads form.

Hairy bittercress (*Cardamine hirsute*)

Pull up when young, before long the cylindrical seed pods appear.

Meadowgrass (*Poa annua*)

Can be found growing all year round, carrying out its short, six-week cycle of germinating, flowering and setting seed. Hoe regularly to prevent the grass from flowering and spreading across your plot.

Plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*)

Uproot the whole plant – including its entire tap root before it flowers and produces seed.

Purple dead-nettle (*Lamium purpureum*)

Invasive - grows very rapidly from germination to seed maturation within a few weeks. Eradicate by cutting the roots and stems.

Ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris*)

Remove and compost before the yellow flowers turn to seed.

Shepherd's purse (*Capsella bursa-pastoris*)

Commonly named because of its triangular flat fruits, which are purse-like. Easy to uproot when still young. Compost only if the heart-shaped seed pods have not yet formed.

Sowthistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*)

Species of flowering plant in the dandelion tribe Cichorieae of the daisy family Asteraceae. Competes vigorously with other plants for light and resources. Control early in growing season either by uprooting manually or by hoeing. Autumn or spring tillage is effective at controlling large scale infestation.

