

# Whose weed is it?

The control of weed plants is the responsibility of the landowner, and everyone can help.

*The City of Greater Geraldton's Pest Plants Local Law 2011* identifies four plant species of particular importance in the local area; boxthorn, caltrop, fountain grass, and verbesina. These species are highly invasive, and difficult to control. In particular, they:

- Increase fire risk and alter fire regimes,
- Reduce ecosystem diversity and resilience, and habitat value for native animals,
- Reduce recreational quality of natural areas.

**The City's goals are to** protect high value conservation areas and limit the further spread of these species through supporting the community with resources and knowledge, and trialling new technologies such as steam treatment and the Enviro-shear.

For links to national, state and local information on weeds, and best practice control, visit the City's website [www.cgg.wa.gov.au](http://www.cgg.wa.gov.au)

## BOXTHORN

*Lycium ferocissimum*



Red berries, very thorny, dormant when under stress.

## VERBESINA

*Verbesina encelioides*



Toxic to livestock. Bright yellow flowers and large grey-green leaves. Can flower any time after rain.

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**www.cgg.wa.gov.au**



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# What can I do?

**Always** follow herbicide label directions. Wear protective clothing. Monitor **all** treatment areas, re-treat as required until the area is clear of weeds – this may take a number of years.

**Verbesina:** For large areas, 1% glyphosate + Pulse 2mL/L while actively growing and before flowering. Or, regularly mow or cultivate broad acre areas. Hand-pull isolated plants, taking the tap root and flower heads. Dispose in a rubbish bin.

**Fountain Grass:** For large areas, slash or burn, and then apply 1% glyphosate and 10mL/L of flupropanate during active re-growth. Grub out isolated plants, bag seed heads, and dispose in a rubbish bin.

**Boxthorn:** For large areas, mechanically remove plants. The sites **must** be monitored, and all root re-growth treated with herbicide. For smaller plants, cut+paste with a herbicide such as Vigilant.

**Caltrop:** For large areas apply a herbicide such as 2.4L/ha of 2,4-D amine, or Imtrade Paraquat 250. For isolated plants, hand pull entire tap root and collect all seeds. Dispose in a rubbish bin.

If you don't have any weeds, you can support groups such as Gero Clean Up Crew, and Chapman River Friends on their clean up days.

## CALTROP

*Tribulus terrestris*



Small, yellow 5-petaled flowers, long prostrate stems covered with fine hairs. Wedge shaped burrs in clusters, each with four+ sharp spines.

## FOUNTAIN GRASS

*Cenchrus setaceus*  
(*Pennisetum setaceum*)



Very long lived, dense clumping grass, with attractive fluffy seed heads.