

Noxious Weed Report for February 13th

Starting this spring the Noxious Weed Office is going to be hiring seasonal field for 4 to 8 months. The staff will have to will be outside hiking, inspecting roads, fields and natural areas, they will be in the office a couple times a week to make landowner contacts, update field sheets, and making plans on where you will be inspecting for noxious weeds next. The Field Inspectors will have to send out legal posting letters to landowners, then they may have to do enforcement work with the commercial applicators. Field staff will have to do a lot of hiking in all types of weather conditions in different areas of Okanogan County. They will have to be able to identify weeds and learn how to identify new weeds. They will have to be able to talk to landowners, make recommendations and provide control options for their weeds. Sometimes they will have to set up an onsite with a landowner, look at weeds on their property, and help develop a noxious weed control plan. They will have to understand the Noxious Weed Laws and be able to follow through with them.

We are looking to hire people that enjoy being outside, and that can learn new things easily, they will also need a good knowledge of Okanogan County, and they should be able to pass the WSDA Public Operator tests. If you or someone you know is interested in working for the noxious weed office, keep an eye on the county web site, our website at www.okanogancounty.org/nw, and the local newspapers.

I also want to remind everyone that if you are interested in getting a private applicator license that you can call the WSU Extension Office in Okanogan at 509-422-7245 and talk to Kellie, she will get you the study materials that you need for the test and get you scheduled to take the test. The testing is Monday mornings and normally start at 8:00am. You can pick up study materials for other test at the Okanogan extension but you can only take the private applicator test here in Okanogan. The WSU Extension is open Monday to Thursday from 8:00am to 5:00pm, and they are closed Fridays.

The Noxious Weed Office also has the February 28th Spring Recertification class coming up at the Omak Movie Theater. From 9:00am to 4:00pm. We have requested 6 WSDA Pesticide credits for the class. You will not need to pre-register for the class as there is plenty of seating at the movie theater. There will be snacks in the Concessions that you can buy from the Movie Theater. If you would like to get an agenda for the class you can call the office at 509-429-2179 or if you can't reach us there, give us a call at 509-429-2179, or come in and see us at 1234 S 2nd Ave, or send us an email at noxiousweeds@co.okanogan.wa.us