

Leave No Weeds

- **Be Aware and Prepare!**

Be aware of and learn to identify problem weeds in your region. **Prepare** by knowing what weeds to expect in the areas you visit. There is a lot of information available on-line.

Go out there **prepared** to pull some weeds! Remember to bring along a garbage bag and gloves when you head out for the day.

If using livestock, feed them **Certified Weed Seed Free feed** before and during backcountry trips. Animals can spread viable seeds after ingestion.

- **Camp and Travel in Weed-Free Areas**

Don't be the person who brings Japanese Stiltgrass to a pristine area! Using equipment in or walking through weed patches will help weed spread seeds. They'll stick to your vehicle, tent, shoes, and whatever else you have, and hitch a ride to a new spot.

Stay on **designated roads and trails**- going off the beaten path helps to distribute seeds and creates disturbances where weeds can spread rapidly. Use established campsites when possible- new campsites create disturbances where weeds can thrive.

- **Pull it Out, Pack it Out**

If you find a weed that hasn't gone to seed, **PULL IT OUT!** Pull only species that you can identify, and pull only taprooted species. Try to get the whole root.

Wear gloves for protection against thorns and toxic chemicals produced by some plants. Try to minimize soil disturbance when pulling weeds.

And remember- pulling weeds that have gone to seed can help spread them around. Better to leave those plants alone, or put the seed heads in a plastic bag and **PACK THEM OUT.**

- **Report it**

If you find a new weed not yet established in your area or a small, isolated patch of common weeds, notify the authorities. This could be the landowner, Forest Service, National Park Service, etc, depending on where you found the plants. Make sure you can give an exact location! If we catch infestation while they are new and small, we have a much better chance of controlling them.