

# Evergreen Lake Community Weed Pull

 [evergreenaudubon.org/evergreen-lake-community-weed-pull](http://evergreenaudubon.org/evergreen-lake-community-weed-pull)

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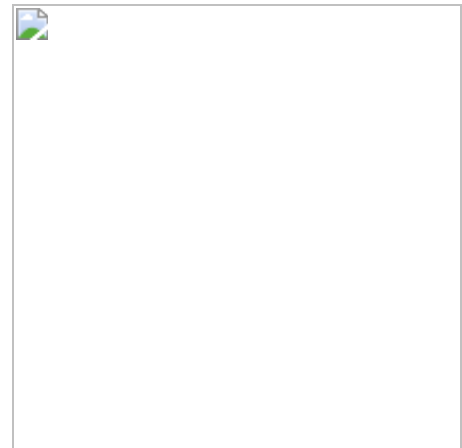
September 3, 2018

On August 3, members of Evergreen Audubon, along with community members and Evergreen Parks and Recreation staff, conducted a noxious and invasive weed pull in the parkland around Evergreen Lake. Over the course of 5 hours, they pulled, cut, and dug-up the large infestations of several species around the lake. The following day, another group worked with EPRD staff to complete the job.

The most abundant weed was Diffuse Knapweed. The Knapweed was tedious to pull and dig, not just because it is prickly, but also because of the dry hard soil conditions. Fortunately, most of the knapweed infestations were caught before the seeds had spread. Other weeds knocked down included Yellow Toadflax, Oxeye Daisy, Common Mullein, Musk Thistle, and Hoary Alyssum. Volunteers filled dozens of large garbage bags with weeds which were then carted away by EPRD staff.

The large infestations of Canada Thistle in the wetlands were left alone per advice from Alicia Doran, Jefferson County Weed Manager. Most of the reproductive energy of this species comes from the extensive root system which sprouts new growth after plants are pulled. Clipping the seed heads of Canada Thistle is ineffective since only a small proportion of the seeds are viable.

Evergreen Audubon is planning to coordinate with EPRD and Jefferson County Invasive Species Department to develop a Weed Management Plan. In addition to eliminating noxious and invasive species, the plan will include planting native vegetation to replace the weeds. This is really the only long-term solution to the weed problem at the Lake.



Tobin Roach Volunteers at the  
Weedpull

Because of the efforts of volunteers and the EPRD staff, there is currently a noticeable aesthetic difference for those of us who know our weed species as we along the trails around the Lake.

Thanks to Adam Gamache and Stacy Lohr with EPRD, and to the following Evergreen Audubon members and friends for their hard work:

- Judd Allan
- Brad Andres
- Ann Dodson

- Kristina Hughes
- Rachel Hutchison
- Chris Pfaff
- Tobin Roach
- Sylvia Robertson
- Dwight Souder
- Bud Weare
- Larry White