

INVASIVE WEED WATCH

WABAMUN WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

FLOWERING RUSH (*Butomus umbellatus*)

This invasive weed can be found on shorelines, in water, wet ditches, irrigation canals and water gardens. It can adapt easily to all type of soils and soil acidity, but does require wet soil and full sun. Once established, flowering rush can quickly replace native plants and degrade the aquatic habitat for wildlife, not to mention making things difficult for boaters and swimmers.

Flowering rush is a cattail-like perennial prohibited noxious weed that produces cluster of 20 to 40 pink through white flowers. Flowers are pollinated by bees, butterflies and flies.



PHOTO: www.vahsad.ua

The best method of control is not introducing it to your landscape. However, if it is present on your property in small amounts, hand digging can be an option. The whole plant needs to be removed (including all roots) in order to prevent new infestations from floating root segments and disposed of in a land-fill bound plastic bag. Cutting below the water surface can be a method of suppressing infestations, but will need to be repeated periodically. Currently no selective herbicides are registered for use on flowering rush. Note: any herbicide applied near water bodies requires specific applicator certification and permits from Environment & Sustainable Resource Development. Consult your local Agricultural Fieldman for information.

For more information also see the AIPC Plant Fact Sheets at: www.invasiveplants.ab.ca

To report Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weeds on crown land contact your local Environment and Sustainable Resource Development office. For weeds on all other lands contact your County/Municipality office.



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