

## Thistle... gone with a whistle.

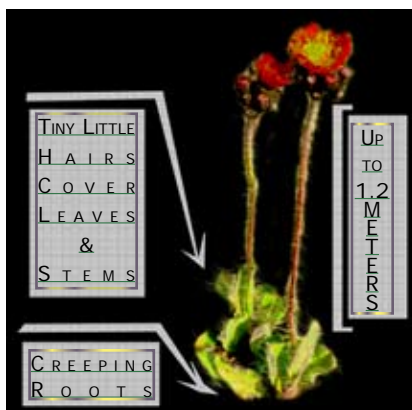
They came, they saw, they whacked weeds. On Saturday, June 16, 2007 The Immaculate Conception Parish started stage one of their proposed plan to remove thistle from the parish and school grounds. Greg Sykes (organizer) and local volunteers came to bring down their whirling wrath upon invasive weeds. The skies parted on this joyful day as the seas of thistle and hawkweed departed. The NWIPC is proud to



PDF only. Click on picture to play. PDF only. have helped fund this event. The next phase of the project will be a professional assessment of the

area to permanently deal with the weeds. The infestation is on a steep hill that can't be mowed. This type of site tends to be a breeding ground for invasive plants because it takes much more time and effort to keep maintained. Thanks to volunteers for making the church grounds truly immaculate. If this is something that you and your organization would like to do, then please see the "wanted" ad on back page.

## Weed of the Month



Orange Hawkweed

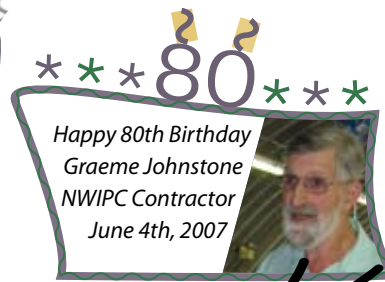
Hieracium arantiacum (Orange Hawkweed) is a perennial. It lays dormant in its roots and blooms in the spring. 14 different species of Hawkweed exist, but this is the only one with orange flowers. It sprouts like a dandelion, but the leaves are very hairy. A tenacious little plant, it can spread by creeping roots, and by seeds blowing in the wind or sticking to animals. Try to remove ASAP. When pulling, break the

earth around the plant and remove any creeping roots. Mowing will not stop it. If your patch is too big to hand pull, call a certified herbicide applicator. Broadcast spraying domestic herbicides may have adverse effects due to the resilience of this plant. Keep watch for any new patches around the original infestation, and find out where it is coming from. Call 1-866-449-3337 to report this high-priority weed.

## Let's go Halvers

The NWIPC 50/50 program is just that. If you think your patch of invasive alien plants is getting beyond your means of control, then call us. Your application could be approved for up to \$500.00 towards getting professional help with your invasive plant problem.

## Events:



Program Manager: Andrea Eastham  
Newsletter: Luke Wichrowski, P.A.  
Editors: Paul Glover, Director; Amy Barnes, P.A.

Bright Idea!  
Call the NWIPC  
Hotline about my  
Orange Hawk-  
weed  
1-866-44WEEDS

## Program Profile *"Buck a day, bids field scabious away!"*



Beautiful Buck Flats Field Day

The local 4H Clubs and the community of Houston BC came together to slow the spread of field scabious in Buck Flats, an area 25 minutes south of Houston. Wendy Siemens (noxious weed control contractor) said, "this whole area was flooded last week, and now it's covered in field scabious." People met at Buck Creek Bridge #2 on Monday, June 25th. Fifty fun-filled kids and parents pulled plants in the most sensitive areas. No herbicide spraying is allowed along the

ecologically important Buck Creek banks, so the only way to remove weeds is to *get-down-and-dirty* and pull them out of the ground. The NWIPC was there to help out with tools and some incentives. All participants were given free "Got weeds?" t-shirts or hats. Prizes were given to kids for finding the scabious with the largest shoot or root. A BBQ was prepared to feed all the weed warriors. Thanks to all helpers, and keep an ear out for next year's Buck Flats field day.

## We kuL

By: Kristina Baarts



## We'd Say

Sunshine Buttercup was an environmental rights activist, however, her plans didn't go so well. A big fan of hemp clothing, she decided to plant what she thought was hemp in an abandoned field. But her



*Sunshine Buttercup & Cinquefoil leaves* buddy gave her some Sulphur Cinquefoil seeds instead. This palmate (5-point-leaved) plant thrives in sunny pastures and quickly took over much of the landscape. The only thing "far-out" about this plant is the magnitude of land it can take over. Looks like Sunshine got burned. Bummer, man!

## WANTED: COMMUNITY GROUPS

■ **REWARD: \$250.00** ■

The Northwest Invasive Plant Council (NWIPC) is looking for active community groups to participate in Community Weed Pull events. Your community group will learn about invasive plant management, weed ID and improve the environment of your community all while earning \$250.00! All the NWIPC needs is three hours of your group's time and a minimum of 10 adult volunteers. Children with adult supervision are always welcome. For more information or to register please contact:

The Northwest Invasive Plant Council  
[www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca](http://www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca)  
 Report Invasive Plants  
 1-866-44WEEDS (1-866-449-3337)

