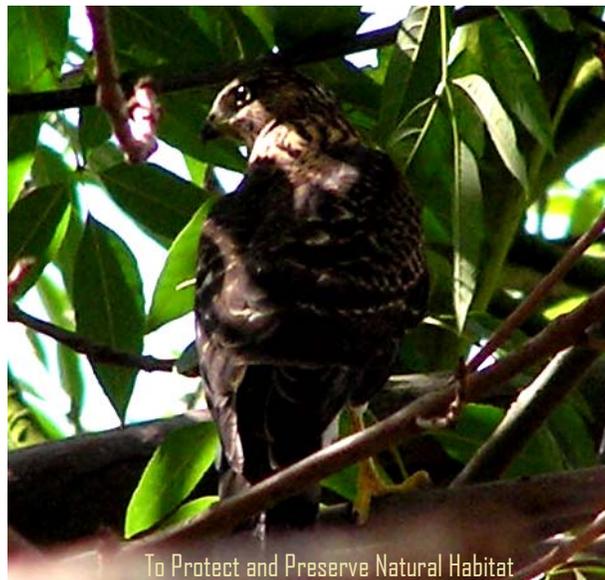




CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS  
**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION**



To Protect and Preserve Natural Habitat

**PECK CANYON PARK  
“DIRTY DOZEN” WEEDS IDENTIFICATION**

THIS BOOKLET WAS CREATED TO ASSIST DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARK STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS IN THE IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEMATIC WEEDS. THE NAME “*DIRTY DOZEN*” WAS GIVEN TO THE TWELVE PLANTS THAT PREVENT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIVE FLORA DUE TO THEIR HIGH REPRODUCTIVE RATE AND ACCELERATED GROWTH. THE “*DIRTY DOZEN*” ARE IDENTIFIED, ILLUSTRATED, AND LISTED IN THE ORDER THAT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE NATURAL ECOSYSTEM OF **PECK CANYON PARK**.

## MAIN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THIS BOOKLET

- 1) Support and restore the natural ecosystem found in **Peck Canyon Park** through the management and control of invasive plants.
- 2) To establish an Integrated Pest Management Program specific to **Peck Canyon Park**.
- 3) Build valuable resources for Department of Recreation and Parks staff and the public.

**Some exotic plants, as well as native vegetation, with aggressive qualities may be considered a weed if it adversely affect the sustainability of the natural areas and encroaches into developed landscapes. Weed problems can be largely avoided by careful landscape design, soil preparation before planting, and adequately scheduled irrigation and mulching. Weed control can be achieved through a combination of the following five control methods:**

**PREVENTIVE:** Preventive method is defined as keeping the weeds from entering or becoming established in the area. Monitoring the area for early detection of unwanted plants is crucial for the preventative methods to work. If a new weed is discovered, immediate actions need to be taken in order to prevent seed production and establishment.

**CULTURAL:** Cultural method is defined as maintenance practices that will make it difficult for weeds to grow or become established, (i.e., select proper plants for the location, irrigation management, and pruning).

**BIOLOGICAL:** Biological method is defined as the usage of living organisms for weeds control. Some of the organisms used for biological control include fungus, bacteria, nematodes, and beneficial insects. When available, biological methods are very effective in weed control.

**CHEMICAL:** Chemical method is defined as the usage of a synthetic or natural toxic product called herbicide for weed control. Selective herbicides are designed to control a specific group of plant. Non-selective herbicides such as 'Round Up' will control all plants. When using a chemical herbicide, it is mandatory to read and always follow what the label instructs.

**MECHANICAL:** Mechanical method is defined as the usage of physical force to injure, remove, and control weeds. Mechanical methods can be achieved through the usage of mowers, hand-pulling, hoeing, and burning.

**PECK CANYON PARK**  
***“ DIRTY DOZEN ”***

Here is a list of the 12 weeds that have been determined to be of concern at **PECK CANYON PARK**. It was prepared as an aid for anyone who will become involved in the preservation of the native flora within the Park.

**SCIENTIFIC NAME**

**COMMON NAME**

*Ailanthus altissima*

tree of heaven

*Fraxinus uhdei*

ash tree seedlings

*Pennisetum clandestinum*

kikuyugrass

*Toxicodendron diversilobum*

poison oak

*Salsola iberica*

Russian thistle

*Ricinus communis*

castor bean

*Brassica spp.*

wild mustards

*Nicotiana glauca*

tree tobacco

*Cynodon dactylon*

Bermuda grass

*Lactuca serriola*

prickly lettuce

*Conyza bonariensis*

hairy fleabane

*Chenopodium berlandieri*

netseed lambsquarters

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Ailanthus altissima*  
COMMON NAME: tree of heaven



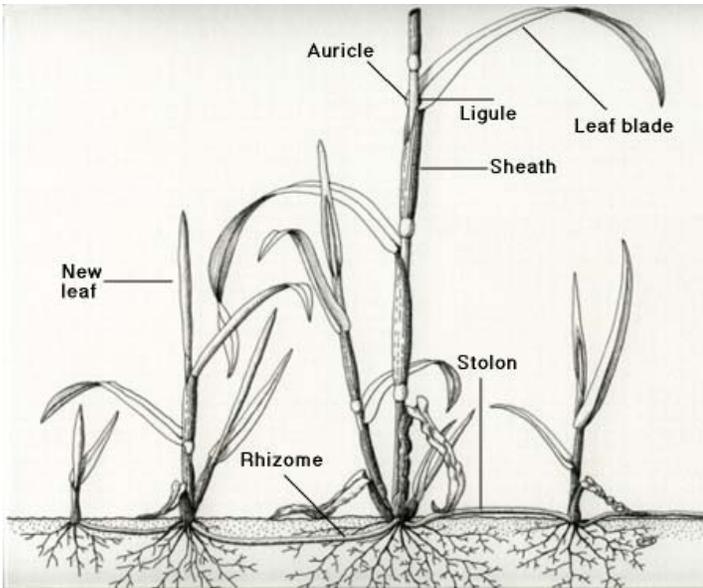
NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Fraxinus uhdei*  
COMMON NAME: ash tree seedlings

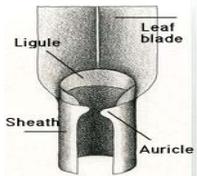


NOTES: *Fraxinus velutina*, velvet ash and *Fraxinus dipetala*, foothill ash are California native plants which can be confused with the weed species. DO NOT ERADICATE NATIVE SPECIES!!! Be certain of the identity of the plant before removing it.

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Pennisetum clandestinum*  
COMMON NAME: kikuyugrass



NOTES: Kikuyugrass is a popular plant used in turf recreational areas. Control plant that escape from desirable areas only.



SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Toxicodendron diversilobum*  
COMMON NAME: poison oak



NOTES: Poison oak is a California native plant of specific value to wildlife. DO NOT ERADICATE!! Control plant in working locations and in areas accessible to the public only.

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Salsola iberica*  
COMMON NAME: Russian thistle



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Ricinus communis*  
COMMON NAME: castor bean



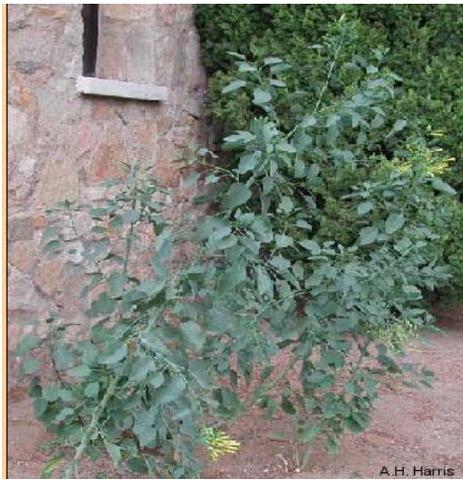
NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Brassica spp.*  
COMMON NAME: wild mustards



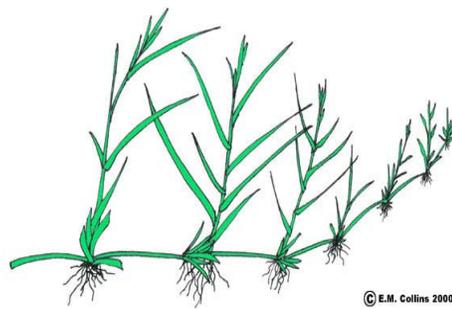
NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Nicotiana glauca*  
COMMON NAME: tree tobacco



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Cynodon dactylon*  
COMMON NAME: Bermuda grass



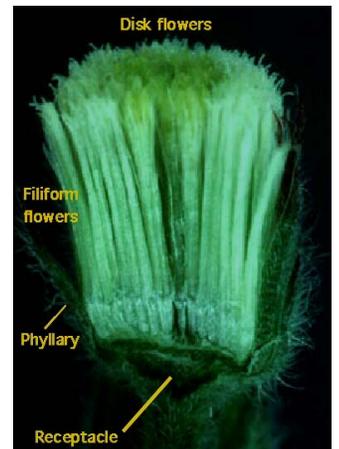
NOTES: Bermuda grass is a popular plant used to turf recreation areas. Only control plants when they escape from desirable locations.

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Lactuca serriola*  
COMMON NAME: prickly lettuce



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Conyza bonariensis*  
COMMON NAME: hairy fleabane

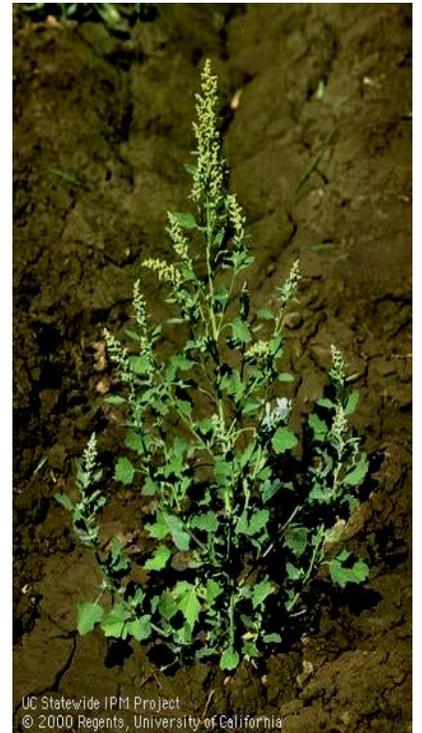


NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Chenopodium berlandieri*  
COMMON NAME: lambsquarters



NOTES:



## **PECK CANYON PARK HISTORY OF THE PARK**

It is rare to find an isolated place within any neighborhood, a getaway from the daily routine without having to take some type of transportation. That is the case of Peck Canyon Park.

Surrounded by busy streets, a commercial area and dense neighborhoods, the park offers a variety of attractions and recreational programs ( swimming, ball games, etc) and best of all a nature canyon with a vast number of plant and tree species that include everything from a microscopic beauty such as *Euphorbia albomarginata* (rattle snake weed) to an extra large tree like *Ficus elastica* (rubber tree).

All of this vegetation is the result of the plant community to which the park belongs, originated from the park to be part of the Dominguez Channel and Los Angeles watershed.

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