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July 18 2018

**Dear Resident:**

It has come to the attention of Public Works that there have been sightings of “Oxeye Daisy” (*Leucanthemum vulgare*) around several Summer Villages. Oxeye Daisy is designated as a noxious weed by the Province, and it must be controlled. It is an aggressive perennial invader; it spreads by over 500 seeds per plant & the seeds are viable in the soil for 3 or more years, and it can spread through its shallow, creeping roots. It has a large impact on forage production in pastures and meadows; cattle avoid it, so it can spread quickly and decrease available grazing forage.

Oxeye Daisy can be identified by its white petals, and bright yellow centres, and it will sometimes have a foul smell. The petals are slightly notched at the tips, and they look similar to Scentless Chamomile and Shasta Daisy. It can grow up to one metre tall, and the leaves get smaller the further up the stem they are. To prevent the spread of this noxious weed, care must be taken when spreading “wildflower seed” mixes that can be purchased as they may have Oxeye seeds in it. Oxeye Daisy can be controlled by deadheading/mowing frequently to prevent seed production, hand removal is also an effective method, however care must be taken to remove as much of the roots as possible. It can also be controlled chemically with aminopyralid alone, or mixed with metsulfuron-methyl. Prior to using any herbicide, always check the product label to ensure it is registered for use on the target plant, another option is to hire a local company to come spray for you.

If you have any questions regarding the control of noxious weeds, feel free to contact myself at 403-887-2822, or at [cloov@sylvansummervillages.ca](mailto:cloov@sylvansummervillages.ca). You can also visit [www.abinvasives.ca](http://www.abinvasives.ca), or [https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$Department/deptdocs.nsf/All/prm13875](https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$Department/deptdocs.nsf/All/prm13875) for more information.

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