



Butterfly Bush

(*Buddleia Davidii*)



History: The Butterfly Bush is an invasive plant species because it is not native to the northwest. The butterfly Bush was brought to Washington from china as a decorative flower to add beauty to resident's yards and gardens.

Characteristics:

- **Flowers:** Are typically purple with orange in the center. The flowers are small and grow in cone shaped clusters 4 to 10 inch long.
- **Leaves:** Leaves are long and narrow and are often 4 to 10 inches long and 1 to 3 inches wide. The leaves are deep green to blue grey.
- **Height:** Shrubs up to 15 feet tall.

Environmental and Economic Impact:

- **Environment impacts:** Forms dense thickets and crowds out native plants and woody vegetation that would normally re-vegetate riverbanks after floods which could lead to erosion of rivers and streams.



- **Economic Impact:** Communities loosing valuable lands and crops. The Cost of removal.

Butterfly bush removal and control:

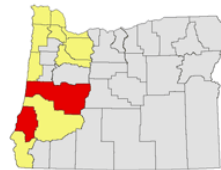
1. Although this is a pretty plant don't purchase and plant this invasive species in your garden.
2. If the plants already in the ground pull it in the fall before it disperses seeds and discard it in the garbage to avoid spreading seeds.
3. If the plant can't be pulled by hand you'll have to dig it out. Make sure to get all the roots because they can grow from left over roots.
4. If the plant is extremely large or keeps growing back it may be necessary to spray herbicides to the base of it. Make sure to follow the directions to prevent any risk to yourself or the environment.
5. Once you've removed it, plant grass to suppress any remaining seedlings that may still be in the ground.



Super Seeds:

Butterfly bush seeds are light weight and have wings. They can spread across many miles either by blowing in the wind or floating down river. A bush matures quickly and a single bush can produce 40,000 seeds each season. It's seeds can also remain viable in the soil for 3 to 5 years.

Location:



The butterfly bush blooms between mid-summer and the first frost. It can be found along rivers and roads and cleared forests in western Washington and Oregon.

Sources:

- www.kingcounty.gov
- www.oregon.gov
- www.extension.oregonstate.edu
- www.djroger.com



If you need assistance or have seen invasive species in your neighborhood call 1-866-INVADER

By Chelsea Baertlein