

## PROTECT OUR WETLANDS



The Putah Creek bio-region and Yolo Bypass Wetlands near Davis comprise a delicately balanced ecosystem. These waterway are home to numerous species of aquatic plants and animals crucial to the food web. These organisms can be harmed by discharges of pesticides in the runoff coming out of urban areas. You can reduce this risk by using effective less toxic pesticides. Consider using these less toxic pesticides:

USE:	FOR:	INSTEAD OF:
Ant Stakes	Ants	Chemical Sprays
Iron Phosphate (Sluggo)	Slugs/Snails	Chemical Bait Killers
Traps	Rats	Chemical Bait Killers
Flea Combs	Fleas	Chemical soaps / Sprays
Soapy water	Aphids	Chemical Sprays

For more information call the City of Davis Integrated Pest Management Specialist at (530) 757-5656 ext. 7322

Use less toxic alternatives to pesticides. Go to "Our Water, Our World" website at [www.ourwaterourworld.org](http://www.ourwaterourworld.org) for more information.

To remind everyone about the importance of preventing pollution of our stormwater, be it from pesticides or other sources, the City of Davis has installed these storm drain inlet markers near each drain:



These markers are easy to install. If you, your group, or organization would like to participate in this pollution awareness program, please contact City of Davis Public Works at (530) 757-5686. Stormwater pollution can be extremely harmful to the health of the plants and animals with which we share this planet. Help us to protect your water resources for current and future generations.

If you see anyone dumping questionable materials, please call City of Davis Public Works at (530) 757-5686.

If it is an emergency, call 911.

**PLEASE KEEP OUR WATERSHED CLEAN!!**

## Flame Weeding



Your informational guide to Flame Weeding, Pesticides, and Weeds

*"Promoting Alternatives to Pesticides"*

Provided by:  
The City of Davis

Flame Weeding:  
*A non-chemical strategy for  
controlling weeds*



Flame weeding is used as an alternative to harmful pesticides. It works by killing the weeds with an intense wave of heat. All plants are made up of tiny cells that are filled with water. By delivering a thin blast of heat directed at the stalk and young leaves, the heat will boil the water inside the cell, rupturing them. After this happens, nutrients and water for the plant cannot move from roots to leaves and results in the plant withering and eventually dying. By destroying the cell structure, the weed will not put energy towards growth. Flame weeding is nearly 100% effective on broad leaf weeds that are caught early. Flame weeding will be controlled and done by trained City staff on City properties. If you have any questions and/or concerns about this project, please contact the City's Integrated Pest Management Specialist Martin Guerena @ (530) 757-5656 ext. 7322.

The truth about Pesticides



A pesticide is any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest. Pests can be insects, mice and other animals, unwanted plants (weeds), fungi, or microorganisms like bacteria and viruses. Though often misunderstood to refer only to insecticides, the term pesticide also applies to herbicides, fungicides, and various other substances used to control pests. The pesticides that are used in everyday life can actually be harmful to people, animals, and the environment. Pesticides are designed to kill or otherwise get rid of target organisms. Pesticides are likely to end up in our waterways that are home to aquatic life. Pollutants have a big impact on these organisms if pesticides are used for the wrong reasons or in the wrong way.



Did you know.....

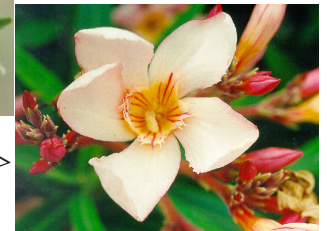
Certain pesticides have been known to cause birth defects and serious health problems in young children, and pets as well as ant farms.

What are weeds?

Weeds are simply plants that are undesirable where they are growing. They take the light and nutrients needed by the other plants which results in limited growth of the wanted plants. Weeds are known to be unsightly, however some weeds, such as Corncockle (shown below), are used as garden plants. This flower was a common field weed but, due to its beauty, is now used as a garden plant.



← *Corncockle*



*Oleander* →

Some weeds, on the other hand, have thorns or prickles or can even be poisonous such as Oleander (shown above) that can lead to skin irritation if touched. They can also attach to clothes as well as animal fur.

Good Gardening Tips:

Using compost in your garden helps prevent erosion which promotes soil fertility and aids in healthy root development. It also increases the water holding capacity so you will not have to water as often!