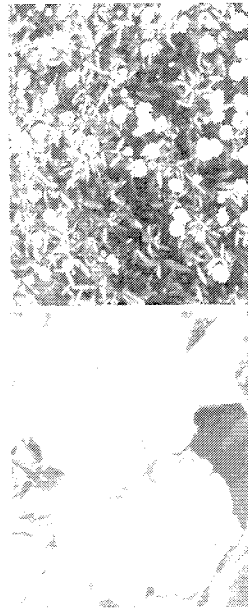


Other Information Available

- 'Environmental Weeds - Delightful But Destructive' - a colour brochure with photos of some environmentally damaging plants and information on their control
- Revegetation and Restoration Pamphlet - a Waitakere City Council pamphlet that gives information on alternatives to environmentally damaging plants, and how to prevent their establishment
- 'Environmental Weeds in the Waitakere Ranges - An Ecological Analysis and Management Strategy' - a detailed study of weeds in the Ranges
- Various brochures on particular weeds and their control.

For more information on environmentally damaging plants and their control, ring and make an appointment with one of our Biosecurity Officers on 836 8000. If you are interested in being involved in initiatives to remove environmentally damaging plants from your area ring the "Keep Waitakere Beautiful" Co-ordinator on 836 8000 x 8145.



Blue morning glory

Mexican daisy

For more information

More detailed information can be found in the Policy, Rules and Map Sections of the Proposed District Plan, available at Council Offices, libraries and Citizens Advice Bureaux. If you have any queries or would like further information about the District Plan, please phone the Hotline 836-8075.

Related information sheets and pamphlets:

Environmentally Damaging Plants Information Sheet
 Revegetation and Restoration
 Tree and Bush Protection
 Riparian Margins
 Green Network
 Woodlots

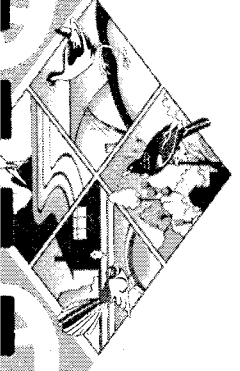
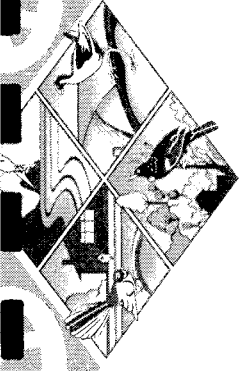
Waitakere City Council
 Private Bag 93109

The Civic Centre
 6 Waipareira Avenue
 Henderson.

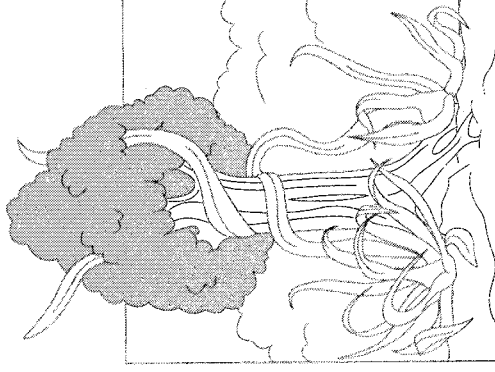
Hotline: 836-8075
 Fax: 836-8001.



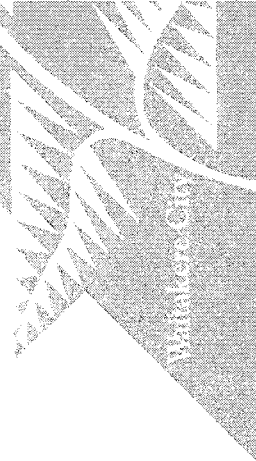
Waitakere
 PROPOSED DISTRICT PLAN



Environmentally Damaging Plants



Waitakere
 PROPOSED DISTRICT PLAN



Waitakere City

Waitakere
 PROPOSED DISTRICT PLAN

What are Environmentally Damaging Plants?

Environmentally damaging plants are plants that are growing wild in natural areas, threatening our natural heritage - our forests, shrublands, wetlands, stream edges and other natural areas in Waitakere City. Most people in Waitakere City are now aware of the damage that wild ginger and old man's beard can cause, but these are not the only plants causing concern. In fact, over 100 plants have been identified as actual or potential environmentally damaging plants in Waitakere City. These plants can, in some cases, completely degrade a natural area, by killing and replacing native plants. This also affects native animals by changing the plants available for food, and the entire habitat that the animal lives in.

What is the Council Doing About These Plants?

Waitakere City Council has included in its proposed District Plan a rule prohibiting the cultivation (planting and propagation) of some environmentally damaging plants in the important natural areas that make up the Green Network (see The Green Network Pamphlet), all Council owned land, and roadsides (weeds, like people, travel along roads and railways!). A list of all of these plants can be found in the Environmentally Damaging Plants Information Sheet.

Where have these plants come from?

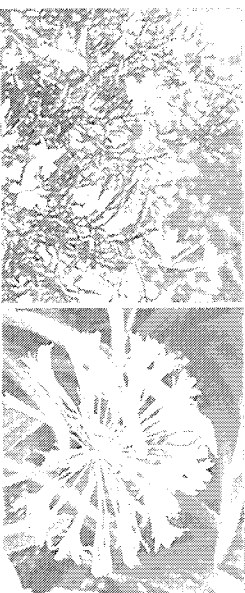
Many of the worst environmentally damaging plants are popular garden plants, and have become weeds by 'escaping' from gardens - either when they grow out of the gardens, or when seeds or other parts of the plant that can re-sprout, have been spread around by wind, water, animals or humans. Plants such as jasmine, agapanthus, monkey apple, cotoneaster, banana passionfruit, and others, at first sight may seem like attractive additions to the natural environment - but look closer, and you will see the environmental havoc they wreak when left unchecked. The kahikatea that the jasmine is sprawled over may eventually die, the agapanthus will replace native cliff dwelling plants, the willow in the Waitakere (Te Henga) wetland will clog and permanently change this important area. The rule in the proposed District Plan, which restricts planting of species that damage the environment, will reduce their numbers in gardens, and so reduce the number establishing in natural areas.

The Auckland Regional Plant Pest Management Strategy

This rule is also intended to support and extend the Plant Pest Management Strategy, being prepared by the Auckland Regional Council under the new Biosecurity Act. This Pest Management Strategy will outline how pests, including plant pests, will be dealt with in the Auckland Region. Plants prohibited under the Plant Pest Management Strategy will be prohibited from all sale and distribution, meaning that people will no longer be able to buy or cultivate them. Waitakere City Council cannot prevent the sale of plants, but can prevent their cultivation in the City. Waitakere City Council has reinforced the ban on cultivation of those plants proposed for inclusion in the Pest Management Strategy, along with several other plants considered to be of considerable threat to natural areas in Waitakere City.

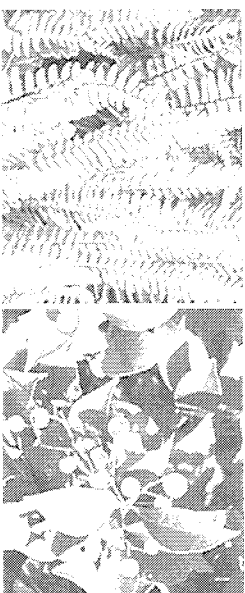
What Can Be Done About these Plants?

- Remove the environmentally damaging plants you have growing in your garden
- Get involved in local initiatives to remove environmentally damaging plants from your area. Waitakere City Council's 'Keep Waitakere Beautiful' programmes coordinate community groups and interested members of the public who want to remove environmentally damaging plants from their areas - providing resources and advice.
- Spread the word about environmentally damaging plants to your friends and neighbours.
- Talk to people in garden centres and nurseries if you think they are selling environmentally damaging plants, explaining your concerns.
- Keep an eye out for any plants you think may be threatening natural areas, and ring the Biosecurity Officers here at Waitakere City Council for help and advice.



Jasmine

Agapanthus



Taber ladder fern

Monkey apple