CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION

ERNEST E. DEBS 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 **ERNEST E. DEBS PARK**.

MAIN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THIS BOOKLET

1) Support and restore the natural ecosystem found in **Ernest E. Debs Park** through the management and control of invasive plants.

2) To establish an Integrated Pest Management Program specific to **Ernest E. Debs 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.

ERNEST E. DEBS PARK
"DIRTY DOZEN"

Here is a list of the 12 weeds that have been determined to be of concern at **ERNEST E. DEBS 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
Ricinus communis	castor bean
Brassica spp.	wild mustards
Avena fatua	wild oats
Pennisetum setaceum	fountain grass
Nicotiana glauca	tree tobacco
Conyza bonariensis	hairy fleabane
Echinochloa crus-galli	barnyard grass
Malva neglecta	common mallow
Marrubium vulgare	white horehound
Raphanus sativus	wild radish
Chenopodium berlandieri	netseed lambsquarters

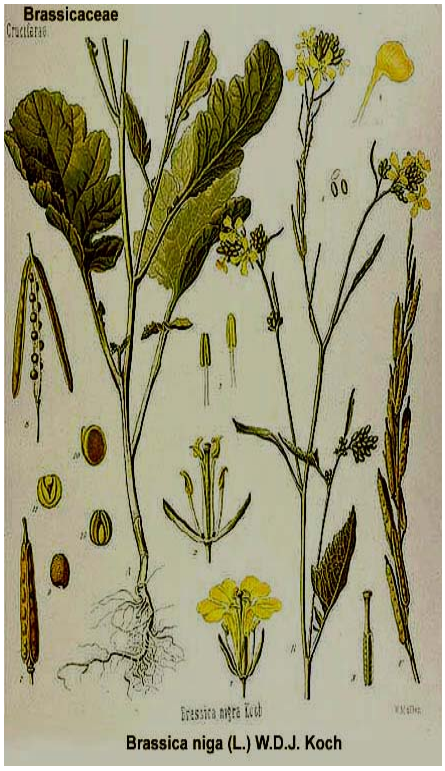
SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Ailanthus altissima*
COMMON NAME: tree of heaven

NOTES:

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

NOTES:

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



NOTES:

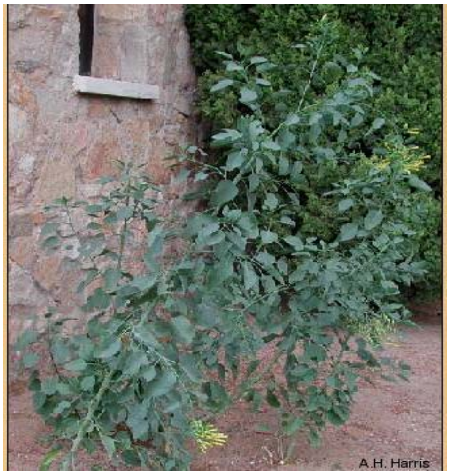
SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Avena fatua*
COMMON NAME: wild oats

NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Pennisetum setaceum*
COMMON NAME: fountain grass

NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Nicotiana glauca*
COMMON NAME: tree of heaven



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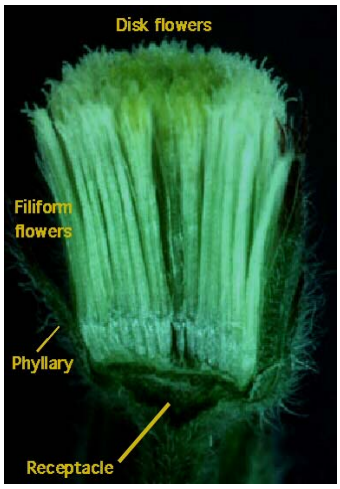
SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Conyza bonariensis*
COMMON NAME: hairy fleabane



NOTES:

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Echinochloa crus-galli*
COMMON NAME: barnyard grass

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SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Malva neglecta*
COMMON NAME: common mallow

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SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Marrubium vulgare*
COMMON NAME: white horehound

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SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Raphanus sativus*
COMMON NAME: wild radish



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SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Chenopodium berlandiery*
COMMON NAME: lambsquarters

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ERNEST E. DEBS PARK
HISTORY OF THE PARK

The park is nestled within the Repetto Hills and is part of the Arroyo Seco watershed that drains via the Arroyo, to the Los Angeles River.

Planned originally for residential development in the late 1920's, the City of Los Angeles began acquiring the land for what is now Ernest E. Debs Park. Today, Debs Park covers a geographic area of 282.3 acres consisting of natural open space and active/passive recreation areas. The Park is intended to evolve into an urban wilderness area through consideration of the natural environmental characteristics of the park. Currently, the park houses different species of wildlife including coyote, raccoons, opossums, and rabbits among others. Only passive, non-intrusive recreational uses (i.e., walking, jogging, sitting and observing nature) are expected for the natural areas of the park. The Audubon Society is creating an educational center within the park to provide information concerning nature in the park. Infrastructure and services are currently included throughout the park in developed areas, such as picnic areas, baseball fields, and a small reservoir on top of the hill.

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