



How to Start a Pull Your Share Educational Weed Pull (Host Version)

General Guide:

1. **Locate a noxious weed site for a class to adopt.** Adopted sites are usually trailheads, sections of trails, campgrounds and boat launches with bathroom facilities. If needed, a portable outhouse can be placed at the site. Make sure you have permission to have a weed pull at the site and ask if you can install a Pull Your Share sign.
2. **Contact a school principal** and ask which teachers he or she believes would be interested in having an in-classroom noxious weed presentation and possibly a field trip.
3. **Call each teacher** and ask if you can meet him or her **in person** after school to discuss the possibility of providing an in-classroom noxious weed presentation for their students and talk to them about Pull Your Share educational weed pulls.
4. **Meet with each teacher after school.** Take a Pull Your Share poster and possibly a plastic knapweed etc. Goal: Set a date to give an in-classroom noxious weed presentation and discuss Pull Your Share educational weed pulls.
5. **In-classroom noxious weed and Pull Your Share presentation:** Share with students your job title, your duties, and the path you took to obtain your position (career exploration). Give a presentation discussing the harmful effects of noxious weeds with a concentration on the targeted noxious weed(s) at your chosen weed pull site. Describe to the teacher and students how Pull Your Share educational weed pulls work. After the in-classroom presentation, ask the teacher if he or she is interested in setting up a Pull Your Share educational weed pull. Later in May through early fall are beneficial times to pull. **Turn over**

6. Prepare for the field trip:

- _____ Remind the teacher(s) to arrange for busing to the site.
- _____ Lunches and water can be provided by your school or each student can bring their own.
- _____ Give the teacher(s) a Pull Your Share field trip letter to go home with school's permission slip.
- _____ Make sure students will have access to a bathroom facility, if needed a portable outhouse can be used.
- _____ Gather materials: gloves, weed pry tools, buckets, plastic bags, a Pull Your Share sign with the correct noxious weed shown on the sign, fasteners, sign installation tools, and extra toilet paper.
You can borrow much of the above from the Pull Your Share Program. See contact information below.

7. Day of the Educational Weed Pull:

Students travel to their adopted noxious weed site.

Upon students arriving at the site, the host reiterates the characteristics of the targeted noxious weed(s) and describes how to identify it and demonstrates pulling the weed while doing minimal damage to desired plants.

Students led by their host and teacher(s) pull noxious weeds for about 1-2 hours. If weeds do not have seed heads, plants can be left where they are pulled. Move from student to student encouraging them as they pull.

Students guided by adults install a Pull Your Share sign at their adopted site to encourage all recreators to pull their share.

Lunch - Host thanks the students and talks about the importance of community service and contributing to our common good. **Ask the teacher if they would like to adopt the weed site and participate in an annual educational weed pull.**

Students return back to school before the end of the school day.

The teacher and his or her class return to the weed site each spring for noxious weed education and to provide long term weed reduction.

If you have any questions or to obtain Pull Your Share signs and posters, etc. or to borrow gloves and weed pry tools, please contact at **406-594-9171** or email at agrweeds@mt.gov.