

A close-up photograph of several Canada Thistle (Cirsium arvense) flowers in a field. The flowers are bright pink and have a spiky, globe-like appearance. Some flowers are in full bloom, while others are still in bud. Several bees are seen flying around and landing on the flowers. The background is a blurred field of green foliage and more thistles.

CANADA THISTLE
Cirsium arvense

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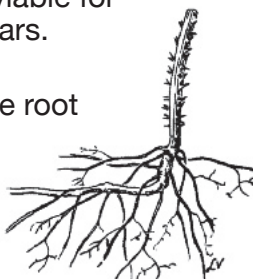
Canada Thistle is an aggressive, noxious weed that is invading the Kenai Peninsula.



Thistle can displace native vegetation, decrease diversity and destroy yards, gardens and natural communities by aggressively competing for water and nutrients.

Canada thistle produces 1500 seeds per plant on average. Seeds are viable for up to 20 years.

Its extensive root system can grow up to 18 feet a year!



32 states, including Alaska, list Canada thistle as a noxious weed. In South Dakota over 1.7 million acres are infested at a cost of \$47.8 million in lost agricultural production. The few known infestations on the Peninsula are less than an acre in size.

Help prevent the spread of Canada Thistle.

If you see this aggressive, invasive plant or want info on how to get rid of it - contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District or the UAF Cooperative Extension Office.

Kenai SWCD

283-8732 ext. 108

Homer SWCD

235-8177 ext. 5

**UAF Cooperative
Extension**

1-800-478-5824

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