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Activities planned statewide for Invasive Weed Awareness Week, June 22-28

(Palmer, AK) – Governor Sean Parnell has proclaimed June 22-28th Invasive Weeds Awareness Week in Alaska, kicking off community events around the state that will focus on teaching people about invasive plants, how to find them, and how to prevent their spread. See below for a list of statewide events.

Anchorage:

- **June 24:** Kincaid Park Weed Pull, 2-5 p.m. Meet at the Kincaid Park chalet parking lot.
- **June 25:** Chugach State Park Weed Pull, 5-7:30 p.m. Meet at the Potter Trailhead on Turnagain Arm.
- **June 28:** Little Campbell Lake Fix-It Event, 9 a.m.-noon. Visit the Invasive Species Awareness Booth during the lake cleanup at Kincaid Park.
- For more information about these events and to RSVP, contact Tim Stallard at weeds.free.ak@gmail.com

Fairbanks:

- **June 21:** Fairbanks Weed Smackdown, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Meet at the Fairbanks Dog Park off South Davis. Visit <http://weeds smackdown.wordpress.com/> for more information.

Glenallen:

- **July 12:** Copper Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area Weed Smackdown, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Visit <http://copperriver.org/events/copper-basin-weed-smackdown> for more information.

Metlakatla:

- **June 24-27:** Children's activities, including a weed pull and invasive plant identification, are planned each day, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Contact Genelle Winter at 886-1560 for more information.

Seward:

- **June 27:** Herman Leirer Road Community Weed Pull, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Meet at the Resurrection Trail parking lot at Herman Leirer Road. Contact Nicholas Kainrath at 422-0550 for more information.

Other ways to participate in Invasive Week Awareness Week include:

- Educating yourself about invasive weeds in Alaska in your community. Visit <http://www.plants.alaska.gov/invasives> to learn more about invasive plants and to request a free pocket field identification guide.
- Know where infestations of invasive plants are in your area. The Alaska Exotic Plants Information Clearinghouse hosts a database and mapping application for non-native and invasive plants in Alaska. Visit <http://aknhp.uaa.alaska.edu/botany/akepic/>.
- Avoid planting invasive plants in your garden! Check out this brochure for more information on alternative ornamental garden options: <http://www.plants.alaska.gov/pdf/altplantsbrochure.pdf>
- Clean, drain, and dry all gear and equipment between visits to waterbodies.
- Never dispose of aquarium plants or organisms into waterbodies.
- Clean your ATV, bikes and other gear before using trails or the backcountry.
- Purchase certified weed-free hay, straw, and gravel.
- GET INVOLVED! Ask your local Cooperative Weed Management Area or Conservation District how you can volunteer!

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