

Adopt-A-Habitat Weeding Guidelines

Thank you for being a part of the Mt. Helix Park Adopt-A-Plot program. With your help we are restoring the Park to its natural, native habitat. Since the program began in 2015, we have seen a huge reduction in the invasive weeds and a resurgence of the native plant population.

It just goes to show you, that as a team, we can make a difference – and quickly!

Below is a set of guidelines for working in the restoration areas. These have been established as best practices to minimize erosion to the soil and the spread of future invasive plants.

- Use open routes whenever possible. We realize some areas require going off of the “beaten path” but try to avoid any further habitat damage, when possible.
- Pull weeds from the roots whenever possible.
- Bag and seal all weeds once removed to insure no further spread of the seed occurs. Bags can be left next to any Park trash can and will be removed by Park gardeners.
- Leaf litter and small twigs/branches can be left on the ground (except eucalyptus). Their decay is beneficial to the soil. The only exception is eucalyptus. Eucalyptus leaf litter should be removed as it is toxic to native species.
- Weeding is recommended at least once a week until your plot is weed free, and then once a month after that to maintain it. Frequency can vary during peak growth times, generally late winter and early spring and after rainfall.
- Weed picks and other low-impact hand tools can be used. Hoes, shovels, and rakes are not used for native habitat restoration.
- No weed killer, roundup or other chemicals