This outlaw weed is hiding out! Find it. Eradicate it.

Canada Thistle

Alias: Cirsium arvense

Distinguishing features:

- Ridged stems typically grow 1 to 4 feet tall.
- Leaves are irregularly lobed with spines at each lobe tip.
- Purple to light pink flowers appear in July and August, forming clusters at the branch ends. The individual, erect flower heads are up to ¾ inch across and have spineless bracts.
- The flat, brown seeds have tufts of hair on the top.

Take action:

- Report its location to the land owner, gardener, manager or park ranger.
- Avoid walking on, driving on, or camping in infested areas.
- Remove all weed seeds from your clothing, shoes, pets, camping gear, vehicle, and tire treads before moving out of an infested area. Equipment may require steam cleaning before moving to new areas.
- Monitor xeriscaped plantings, roadsides, and dry, bare areas. Carefully remove any seeds and dig up the plant. Dispose of the seeds, shoots, and roots, in a sealed garbage bag through the trash. Herbicides may also be available to kill this plant.

Your reward:

A cleaner, healthier environment and the satisfaction that you have helped make the difference!

For more information about controlling this and other invasive weeds, contact:

Nevada Cooperative Extension
775-784-1334;
Nevada Division of Agriculture Bureau of Plant Industry,
775-688-1180; or
Your local Weed District manager or Conservation District: