



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2023 Lake County Invasive Weeds Tours to be Held May 11, 12

No Reservations Required – Questions? Contact the Agriculture Department at (707) 263-0217

LAKE COUNTY, CA (April 21, 2023) — Mark your calendar! The Lake County Weed Management Area is delighted to announce its annual Invasive Weeds Tours. For 2023, we are offering two tours on consecutive days: the first, showcasing weeds that affect Clear Lake and efforts to restore tules along the shoreline; the second, featuring weeds of grasslands and oak woodlands and restoration of native wildflowers at the McLaughlin Reserve. Both great tours are FREE! The public is welcome and encouraged to join one or both.

Thursday May 11, 9 am – noon. Aquatic Weed Tour at Clark’s Island

Join staff from the Lake County Water Resources Department and Resource Conservation District as we dive into the world of aquatic plants and wetland weeds of Clear Lake and Lake County!

Aquatic and wetland plant specimens and examples will be presented to facilitate hands-on learning and education. We will also learn about recent invasive plant management efforts at Clark’s Island and the successful tule replanting effort that has been ongoing for the past two years. This effort has been led by Lake County Watershed Protection District, Tribal EcoRestoration Alliance, and tribal partners at Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians and Robinson Rancheria. Outreach materials and display tables will be available. Please park on the west side of Clark’s Island, by the Adobe sign; extra parking is available along the north side of the channel, adjacent to PowerMart.



Clark’s Island in the Clear Lake Oaks is on the Lake County Water Trail route, but also under current management and control of aquatic invasive species. Photo Credit: A. De Palma-Dow

Friday May 12, 9 am – noon. Weeds and Wildflowers at the McLaughlin Reserve

Join staff from the University of California McLaughlin Reserve to learn how invasive plants, especially annual grasses, have reduced native wildflower displays in Lake County. Participants will view areas of the reserve where wildflowers have been restored by removing invasive species! We will discuss the use of prescribed fire, cattle grazing, herbicides, mowing, and hand pulling as tools to control weeds and restore wildflowers. We are expecting robust wildflower displays in May this year, so bring your cameras! We will meet at the McLaughlin Reserve Headquarters at 26775 Morgan Valley Rd, then carpool for our field tour, which will involve walking about a quarter mile on gentle terrain.



Native wildflowers, such as California goldfields and royal larkspur seen here, flourish when invasive annual grasses are controlled at the McLaughlin Reserve. Photo Credit: Catherine Koehler

For both tours, please bring hats, sunscreen, lunch or a snack, drinking water, and your questions about plants and the lake. Please wear sturdy shoes free of seeds and mud, and bring gloves if you want some hands-on weed removal experience.

This event is sponsored by the Lake County Department of Agriculture and the Lake County Resource Conservation District. No reservations are required.

Please contact the Agriculture Department at (707) 263-0217 if you have any questions.

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