

Media Release

Wednesday, 29 April, 2020

Parthenium weed located in Narrabri Shire

A weed of national significance and a biosecurity risk to NSW, Parthenium Weed, was recently located in the Narrabri Shire. The incursion was detected on the Pilliga Road approximately 12kms from the township of Wee Waa.

Council Weeds Officers are currently inspecting roadsides throughout this area to locate further Parthenium weed infestations. Parthenium weed is prohibited in NSW and has a devastating effect on farmland and is harmful to humans causing severe allergic reactions, asthma attacks and other respiratory problems.

If the spread of Parthenium goes unchecked, then the risk to the environment, the local economy and residents is high. Control measures to identify, eradicate and contain areas of infestation are currently being enforced throughout the Shire.

Containment of this weed is critical. If established, Parthenium can produce a seed bank that can last over fifteen years. Council is asking property owners and residents of the Shire to report any sightings of Parthenium and mark the location. It is essential that you do not remove the plant as this may initiate the plant to drop seed.

To report a potential sighting of Parthenium please contact Narrabri Shire Council Weeds Officers on 02 6799 6866 or the NSW DPI Biosecurity Helpline on 1800 680 244.

For additional information about parthenium weed and how to identify the plant at different growth stages please visit NSW DPI Weed Wise Website:

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/weeds/partheniumweed>

- Ends -



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