



# Weed of the Week

*Help the City of St. Albert control invasive plants/weeds in our community!*

*An invasive plant is a non-native plant that spreads easily, aggressively and may displace or alter natural plant communities.*

*As per the Alberta Weed Control Act, municipalities are required to control the spread of noxious weeds.*

## **HIMALAYAN BALSAM:**

***Locations:***

Often found along the edges of wetlands and resident flower gardens.

***Identification:***

Stems are smooth and grow up to three metres tall. Flowers are long in shades of pink through purple. The unique corkscrew shaped seed can eject five metres from the flower.

***City Control:***

Manual removal is effective. The City controls small patches through hand pulling.

***What can you do?***

Do not plant this flower. Hand pulling is effective and easy, due to shallow roots. Ensure plants are disposed of in a sealed garbage bag to prevent further spread. **DO NOT COMPOST.**

*Information and picture provided by the Alberta Invasive Plants Council  
[www.invasiveplants.ab.ca](http://www.invasiveplants.ab.ca)*