



## CANADA THISTLE

*Cirsium arvense*

### IDENTIFICATION TIPS

- ▶ This creeping perennial's extensive rhizome system can extend up to 3 ft. It features smooth, oblong, irregularly lobed leaves with spiny margins.
- ▶ Pink or purple flowers bloom in late June through September, growing in 3/4-in.-diameter clusters.
- ▶ Unlike musk and bull thistles, the stems and flowers do not have spines or prickles.
- ▶ It colonizes in tall clusters (1 to 3 ft. in height), particularly in open areas.

### CONTROL TIPS

- ▶ After the first flower buds are formed and before the first flowers open, apply foliar herbicides, which move down through the plant and injure the root system. Repeat applications on regrowth may be needed.
- ▶ Removing shoots can stimulate growth on underground buds, which can generate new shoots a year or more after top-growth has been destroyed. Hand-pulling or mowing just spreads the growth of this problematic plant.



## SPURGE

*Euphorbia maculata*

### IDENTIFICATION TIPS

- ▶ Red- or purple-tinged stems host opposite leaves, and emit milky juice when broken.
- ▶ Oblong leaves are smooth or sparsely hairy, from reddish-green to dark green in color — often with a maroon or purple spot in the center.
- ▶ The prostrate structure forms mats by branching from the base.
- ▶ This warm-season annual is found in disturbed soil, such as in gardens and flower beds, along

sidewalks, and in open turf areas.

### CONTROL TIPS

- ▶ Apply a broadleaf, pre-emergence herbicide in late spring. If you have germinated spurge, apply a post-emergent herbicide when the plants are small.
- ▶ Mulching of beds, adequate soil moisture and good fertility help control this species. Hand-pulling plants when they're small will minimize the seed deposits.

For more information regarding these and other turf weeds — and related control technologies and tips — please visit [www.DowProvesIt.com](http://www.DowProvesIt.com) or call 800/255-3726.

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