



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance 20004

Proposed No. 2025-0301.2

Sponsors Dembowski

1 AN ORDINANCE regarding the King County noxious
2 weed control program; revising King County noxious weed
3 control program assessments; amending Ordinance 13325,
4 Sections 1 and 2, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.670.200 and
5 establishing an effective date.

6 **STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

7 1. Since the last noxious weed parcel assessment increase in 2022 under
8 Ordinance 19535, there have been increases in the costs of providing
9 noxious weed prevention and control services and increases in the number
10 and acreage of noxious weed sites in King County that are mandated for
11 control by chapter 17.10 RCW. The noxious weed control program
12 continues to discover higher numbers of infested sites each year. There
13 have been ten additions to the State and County Noxious Weed List across
14 eight hundred fifteen new sites since 2022, requiring research and new
15 surveying techniques by county staff to ensure compliance with new
16 regulations. In addition, widespread nonregulated invasive weeds are
17 creating increasingly adverse effects to farms, forests, and urban
18 greenspaces, and additional resources are needed to identify and achieve
19 higher levels of control of these damaging species, especially to

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20 underserved communities and in areas being protected by conservation
21 efforts.

22 2. There was no fee increase sought during the 2025 annual budget cycle,
23 thereby utilizing a portion of the program's thirty-day fund reserve. The
24 proposed rate restores the fund reserve and covers three years of
25 inflationary increases through 2027 to sustain existing level of service. The
26 King County noxious weed control budget for 2026 and 2027 is included in
27 the King County budget for 2026 and 2027, submitted to the King County
28 council by the King County executive, and based on this budget, an
29 increase in the noxious weed control program assessment is warranted on
30 all property not classified as forest land from six dollars and twenty cents to
31 eight dollars and twelve and two one-thousandths cents per parcel and from
32 forty-four and twenty-nine one thousandths cents to fifty-eight cents per
33 acre on all property not classified as forest land shall be imposed annually.
34 Property classified as forest land, as defined in RCW 84.33.035, that is
35 used solely for the planting, growing, or harvesting of trees and that is
36 typified by canopies so dense as to prohibit the growth of an understory,
37 shall be increased from sixty-two cents to eighty-one and two one-
38 thousandths cents per parcel and from four and forty-three one-thousandths
39 cents to five and eight one-thousandths cents per acre fee, in order to
40 address the increases in noxious weed species listed, their area of
41 infestation, and their impacts.

42 3. Lands owned by the federal government or by federally recognized

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tribes or members of such tribes that are located within the historical boundaries of a reservation shall not be assessed for the noxious weed control program.

4. It is in the public interest, and is necessary for the protection of health, safety, and welfare for the residents of King County that the necessary costs of providing noxious weed control program services continue to be paid, and that such costs continue to be charged against those parcels benefitting from these services.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. A. Section 2 of this ordinance proposes to revise the noxious weed control program assessments.

B. These assessments are authorized under RCW 17.10.240.

SECTION 2. Ordinance 13325, Sections 1 and 2, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.670.200 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

A. An assessment for the King County noxious weed control program of ~~((six dollars and twenty))~~ eight dollars and one hundred twenty-two one thousandths cents per parcel and ~~((forty-four and twenty-nine one thousandth))~~ fifty-eight cents per acre on all property not classified as forest land shall be imposed annually. Property classified as forest land, as defined in RCW 84.33.035, that is used solely for the planting, growing, or harvesting of trees and that is typified by canopies so dense as to prohibit the growth of an understory shall be assessed at the rate of ~~((sixty-two))~~ eighty-one and two one-thousandths cents per parcel and ~~((four and forty-three one thousandths))~~ five and eight one-thousandths cents per acre.

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66 B. The amount of the assessment shall constitute a lien against any property for
67 which the assessment has not been paid by the date it is due, as provided in RCW
68 17.10.240. A notice of lien shall be sent to each owner of such a property.

69 C. Lands owned by the federal government or lands owned by federally
70 recognized tribes or members of such tribes as are located within the historical

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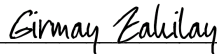
- 71 boundaries of a reservation shall not be assessed for the noxious weed control program.
- 72 SECTION 3. This ordinance takes effect January 1, 2026.

Ordinance 20004 was introduced on 10/7/2025 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/18/2025, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Mosqueda, Perry, Quinn, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Signed by:



1AEA3C5077F8485...

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:



8DE1BB375AD3422...

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of 11/25/2025, ____.

Signed by:



AAA4841FD7644BE...

Shannon Braddock, County Executive

Attachments: None

Certificate Of Completion

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401 5TH AVE

SEATTLE, WA 98104

Cherie.Camp@kingcounty.gov

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Cherie.Camp@kingcounty.gov

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Signer Events

Girmay Zahilay

girmay.zahilay@kingcounty.gov

Council Chair

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
(None)

Signature

Signed by:

1AEA3C5077F8485...

Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style

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Viewed: 11/20/2025 12:09:54 PM

Signed: 11/20/2025 12:10:03 PM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Accepted: 11/20/2025 12:09:54 PM

ID: 177cc11d-414c-43bf-ba7c-83d27ffac64f

Melani Hay

melani.hay@kingcounty.gov

Clerk of the Council

King County Council

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
(None)

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Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

Accepted: 9/30/2022 11:27:12 AM

ID: 639a6b47-a4ff-458a-8ae8-c9251b7d1a1f

Shannon Braddock

Shannon.Braddock@kingcounty.gov

King County Executive

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
(None)

Signed by:

AAA4841FD7644BE...

Signature Adoption: Uploaded Signature Image

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In Person Signer Events

Signature

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Status

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Agent Delivery Events

Status

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Status

Timestamp

Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
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Ames Kessler
akessler@kingcounty.gov
Executive Legislative Coordinator & Public Records
Officer
King County
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
(None)
Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
Not Offered via DocuSign

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Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
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Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
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Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure
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