

Common mallow

Malva neglecta

Mallow Family

Key identifying traits

- ❑ Leaves are round and lobed with a notched base
- ❑ Flowers can range in color from white to a pale lavender
- ❑ Fruits are a rounded button shape and it is often called *buttonweed*
- ❑ It usually spreads low on the ground and can range from 2-20" per branch

Biology and ecology

- This plant can be an annual, winter annual or biennial
- It is common in waste areas, gardens, along driveways and in pastures
- Common mallow was introduced from Europe but has been in the U.S. for a long time
- Usually not considered aggressive but is hard to control due to the deep tap root

Control

Prevention - Learn to identify plants; start monitoring early in the season

Biological - No known biological control in our area

Cultural - Plant competitive grass or other cover crop

Mechanical - The plant is hard to pull, dig or till due to the deep tap root, mowing not effective due to its low height

Chemical - Common mallow is hard to kill- but the [PNW Weed Management handbook](#) has listed sulfentrazone and oxyfluorfen and others as being good control for mallow. Weed Board staff has been successful using the 3-way mix of dicamba, metsulfuron and 2,4-D



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Where found – Widespread throughout Stevens County along roads and in pastures and it can be a problem in gardens