

Common Reed or Phragmites

Phragmites australis



General Description:

- Perennial Grass: 15' tall, prefers wet soils
- Leaves: Rolled in bud, auricles absent, ligule has ring of silky hairs; blades flat, margins rough or sharp
- Stem: Hollow, sheath hairless except on margins, which overlap
- Flowers: Conspicuous 4-15" plume, purple when young and light brown with age

Prominent Features:

- Large plume, which persists in winter
- 15' tall

How to Remove:

- **Do NOT pull or disturb roots**
- Repeat cutting/flooding

Look Alikes: Several

- Reed Canary Grass: Smaller with membranous ligule
- Giant Reed (*Arundo donax*): ~20' tall, blade base (collar) rounded or clasping



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