WANTED

DEAD OR ALIVE

FOR FRAUD



SNOW-ON-THE-MOUNTAIN

Criminal Record: Passed itself off as an attractive groundcover, but once victims let it onto their property, it took over the place and started threatening the other plants.

Caution: Often sold to unsuspecting gardeners who discover too late that it can take over the garden and jump the fence into natural areas, where it carpets over important native plants. It primarily spreads underground, so pulling it just causes the underground criminal network to regrow stronger than ever, plus the plants you've pulled can re-root.

Description: Travels under various aliases ("goutweed," "bishop's weed," "ground elder") and disguises (sometimes leaves are solid green, sometimes green & white). Leaves have three clusters of three leaflets each (occasionally a couple leaflets will fuse together) and are low to the ground. It sends up taller white-flowered stalks that resemble queen anne's lace, but when it goes to seed, the seed head holds its umbrella shape instead of curling up into a ball like queen anne's lace does.

NATURAL

RESOURCES

Sentence: A patch at the old farm on Jaeger Road will be mowed in June and smothered with a heavy tarp. If it survives to 2015, we will dig up the roots. Three strikes and you're out: if it reoffends in 2016, we will spray with Round-Up®.

Any information on whereabouts: contact Allison Shaw in Natural Resources at 478-4191 if you find it has escaped.