State Prohibited Noxious Weeds

Musk Thistle – *Carduus nutans*

- Biennial (rosette year 1, bolted year 2) – 2 to 7 feet tall
- Leaves are dark green with light green midrib and are deeply lobed with spiny edges
- Stems are branched and covered with spiny winged leaflets
- Flowers are large (3 inch dia.), deep pink to rose in color, and surrounded by stout/pointed leaf-like bracts
- Flowers are borne on long-smooth solitary stalks and tend to nod or droop (sometimes called nodding thistle)
- Reproduces by seed