Bur buttercup
*Ranunculus testiculatus*  Buttercup Family

**Identification**
- Yellow flowers, 5 petals turning to stiff brown burs on maturity
- Plants are short growing 2-5" tall
- Leaves are alternate, from 1-4" long, and are divided into finger-like segments
- Plant has a yellowish green appearance

Common in the western states and in scattered areas all across Stevens County including lawns and gardens as well as over grazed pastures

- An annual plant spreading by seed
- Grows in early spring and can flower within 3 weeks of leaf emergence
- Highly toxic to all livestock, but loses toxicity when dry (in hay)
- Native to southeastern Europe

**Control**
*Prevention*- Do not plant as an ornamental  
*Biological*- No known biological controls  
*Cultural*- Healthy vegetation helps but it is a competitive plant  
*Mechanical*- Cultivation such as hoeing, pulling, digging, or tillage should work well if it can be done before seed production  
*Chemical*- There are several herbicides on the market that can effectively control bur buttercup but timing is important—must be early in season; 2,4-D plus dicamba or glyphosate are often recommended for control

**Some herbicides labeled to control this plant:** Cimarron Max; Opensight; Ally; Oust- refer to CDMS.net or the PNW Weed Management Handbook for more options

Read and follow all label instructions when applying herbicides; your site must be on label but your weed doesn’t have to be. Trade names have been used to simplify instructions and no endorsement or warranty is expressed or implied. Some are restricted use and require a license.