Common cocklebur

Xanthium strumarium

Minnesota C-Value: 0

Wetland Indicator Status: FAC

Native

Leaves: Alternate, ovate to nearly round, some 3-5 lobed, margins with blunt teeth, petioles 3-10 cm long.

Stems: Rough and often brown spotted, 7 in. - 5 ft long.

Flowers and fruit: Small, male flowers on short, terminal branches. Female flowers clustered in axils. Produces a brown, spiny bur that attaches easily to passers-by.

Plant communities: Shores, streambanks, wet meadows, disturbed fields and edges. Colonizes mudflats.

Comments: Annual weed considered noxious in some counties. Previously classified as *Xanthium pensylvanicum*. The long-petioled, very large leaves make this plant fairly easy to identify when it is not in flower or when burs are absent.