Common burdock

Arctium minus (Hill) Bernh.

**Life cycle**
Biennial.

**Leaves**
Plant forms a large-leaved basal rosette in the first year. Leaves are large, alternate, wavy and broadest at the base with hollow petioles. The upper leaf surface is dark green; the undersurface is light green and woolly.

**Stems**
Hollow, hairy, grooved stems elongate from the rosette during the second year. Stems are branched and can grow to 5 feet tall.

**Flowers and fruit**
Purple flower heads are encircled by hook-like bracts that dry to form a bur. The seed is enclosed in the burs, which make dissemination easy by attaching to fur or clothing.

**Reproduction**
Seeds.

Asteraceae (Aster family)