

Invasive Species Disposal Guidelines

- Our local green waste accepts anything that is not treated with pesticide or paint and is then picked up by Richmond Bio) and goes through a 2 year composting process using heat to turn the waste into soil so the danger of invasive propagation is minimal.
- Residential composting is a whole other story GVRD Compost hotline at 604-736-2250.
- Generally best practices for disposal of invasive and noxious plants is burning.

Excellent website link - controlling weeds! - <http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/cropprot/bioweed.htm>

What Can You Do?

BE AWARE Learn about the potential aggressiveness of what you buy through mail-order seed catalogues, the Internet and other sources. Awareness is the key to preventing further losses to BC's biodiversity due to introduction of invasive foreign plant material.

- **Do not purchase** legislated noxious weed seeds.
- **Contain creeping plants.** Grow them in containers.
- **Don't let invasive plants go to seed.**
- **Control weeds growing underneath bird feeders.**
- **Grow alternative plant material.** (e.g., substitute less aggressive plants for purple loosestrife)
- **Keep aggressive plants from escaping** your garden or landscaped area.
- **Do not use** roadside/idle area plants in flower arrangements



Undesirable plant species

Deciding what plant species might be undesirable in a given area would be an exceptionally difficult task. Each species would have to be judged on its individual potential to escape and invade native landscapes. The following list contains a few examples of aggressive ornamental or herbal species that have escaped the garden and are available for purchase through various sources.

- [Baby's-breath \(*Gypsophila paniculata*\)](#)
- [Burdock \(*Arctium lappa*\)](#)
- [Common tansy \(*Tanacetum vulgare*\)](#)
- [Cypress spurge \(*Euphorbia cyparissias*\)](#)
- [Dalmatian toadflax \(*Linaria dalmatica*\)](#)
- [Diffuse knapweed \(*Centaurea diffusa*\)](#)
- [English ivy \(*Hedera helix*\)](#)
- [Field scabious \(*Knautia arvensis*\)](#)
- [Giant hogweed \(*Heracleum mantegazzianum*\)](#)
- [Hound's-tongue \(*Cynoglossum officinale*\)](#)
- [Japanese knotweed \(Mexican bamboo\) \(*Polygonum sachalinense*\)](#)
- [Musk thistle \(*Carduus nutans*\)](#)
- [Orange hawkweed \(*Hieracium aurantiacum*\)](#)
- [Oxeye daisy \(*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*\)](#)
- [Poison hemlock \(*Conium maculatum*\)](#)
- [Policeman's helmet \(*Impatiens glandulifera*\)](#)
- [Purple loosestrife \(*Lythrum salicaria*\)](#)
- [Scotch broom \(*Cytisus scoparia*\)](#)
- [Spotted knapweed \(*Centaurea maculosa*\)](#)
- [St. John's-wort \(*Hypericum perforatum*\)](#)
- [Yellow toadflax \(*Linaria vulgaris*\)](#)
- Himalayan Blackberry - <http://www.riverworks.org/scrapbook/himalayanblackberry.html>
- Reed Canarygrass - <http://www.riverworks.org/scrapbook/reedcanarygrass.html>
- **Lamium maculatum** http://www.em.ca/garden/per_lamium_maculatum_white_nancy.html

To learn more about BC's noxious weeds contact your local BCMAFF office, or visit: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/agf/>

Weed Suppression Techniques

Brown cardboard can be an effective tool for suppressing weeds in the garden because it blocks the light that encourages them to grow. Obtained from shops as used packaging material (e.g. boxes), it is the free organic mulch alternative to using plastic sheeting. As it breaks down over time, cardboard encourages earthworms, and unlike plastic sheeting, it allows air and water to penetrate the soil. Even perennial weeds will be hard done by with a layer of cardboard to contend with.



If you haven't had time to remove weeds from the garden area, cardboard can be applied in early summer. It's a great way to tackle a large area. Here are the steps:

1. Lay the cardboard down in the garden area around existing plants.
2. Weight down the edges and seams of the cardboard with soil or rocks.
3. Soak the cardboard - making sure it's wet so it doesn't wick moisture away from the soil. When the cardboard is moist, it is ready for planting.
4. To plant, cut a hole in the cardboard big enough for the plant to fit.
5. Place the plant in the hole, placing it in the soil.
6. After the planting is completed, cover the area with a layer of bark mulch to hide the less appealing cardboard.