

Other ways to lend a helping hand

Join a stewardship group

The Metro Vancouver Ecological Restoration Team is a great way to spend some time in a regional park, learn more about ecology and invasives and have fun! Lots of opportunities are available at Metro Vancouver's 22 regional parks. Go to [meetup.com/Regional-Parks-Connect-Metro-Vancouver/](https://www.meetup.com/Regional-Parks-Connect-Metro-Vancouver/)

There are many other local stewardship groups.

Learn more about invasive plants in Metro Vancouver

Go to [metrovancover.org](https://www.metrovancover.org) and search "invasive species"

Another good source of information about invasive plants is the Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver. Check out the website at [iscmv.ca](https://www.iscmv.ca)

Help Stop the Spread of Invasive Plants



What is an invasive plant?

It's a plant species that isn't native to our region and also tends to be super efficient at growing and spreading. Because it didn't evolve here, it has no natural controls (predators, diseases, etc.) to keep it in check.

Why are invasive plants a problem?

There are lots of reasons, but here are a few:

- They affect wildlife by degrading habitat
- They can alter water flow and lead to erosion
- Some contain substances that are toxic to people and animals
- Some can increase the risk of wildfires



Here are some simple things that you can do to help

Don't dump yard waste



Although it might seem like a good idea to "recycle" plant parts or soil into a park or natural area, it can introduce all kinds of problems.

Keep garden plants under control



If your property borders a park or natural space, keep fast-spreading invasive plants such as English ivy, periwinkle and lamium contained. Consider replacing them with a non-invasive alternative.

Choose garden plants wisely



Do some research before buying a new plant for the garden – to avoid picking an invasive species. (Yes, some are still sold in garden stores.)

[growgreenguide.ca](https://www.growgreenguide.ca) is a good resource.

Mailing Address:

Metro Vancouver Regional Parks
4515 Central Blvd, Burnaby, BC
Canada V5H 0C6

Common Invasive Plants in Metro Vancouver

Garden escapees



English ivy
(*Hedera helix*)



English holly
(*Ilex aquifolium*)



Lamium
(*Lamiastrum galeobdolon*)



Common periwinkle
(*Vinca minor*)



Yellow flag
(*Iris pseudacorus*)



**Daphne/
spurge laurel**
(*Daphne laureola*)



Cherry laurel
(*Prunus laurocerasus*)



Butterfly bush
(*Buddleia davidii*)



Bamboo
(*Phyllostachys spp.*)



Others



Himalayan blackberry
(*Rubus armeniacus*)



Giant hogweed
(*Heracleum mantegazzianum*)



Knotweeds
(*Fallopia spp.*)



Scotch broom
(*Cytisus scoparius*)



Purple loosestrife
(*Lythrum salicaria*)



Policeman's helmet
(*Impatiens glandulifera*)

