

# Invasive Plants And Our Environment

## What Not To Do



- Never dump yard trimmings, garden waste or hanging baskets into natural areas and parkland.
- Avoid buying plants promoted as fast spreaders or vigorous self-seeders as they are often invasive.

## Please Do the Following

- Dispose of invasive plant material in your Green Cart, except Giant Hogweed. For more information about Giant Hogweed please visit [coquitlam.ca/hogweed](http://coquitlam.ca/hogweed).
- Grow native plants in your garden.
- Control the spread of invasive plants on your property by removing them or containing them.
- Use caution when using plant seed mixes as they may contain invasive plants.

## Who to Call

For more information, or to volunteer to participate in invasive plant removal projects, please visit [coquitlam.ca/badseed](http://coquitlam.ca/badseed).

Dumping invasive plants in Coquitlam is strictly prohibited. The City of Coquitlam has the authority to fine offenders. To report dumping of invasive plants, please contact the City of Coquitlam.

## City of Coquitlam

Phone: 604-927-6300

Email: [parcs@coquitlam.ca](mailto:parcs@coquitlam.ca)

City of Coquitlam  
3000 Guildford Way  
Coquitlam, BC, V3B 7N2

[coquitlam.ca/badseed](http://coquitlam.ca/badseed)



WEED OUT INVASIVE PLANTS



# Invasive plants are non-native plants that grow and spread quickly, taking over the natural environment.

Over 25 invasive plant species have been identified in Coquitlam to date.

Here are six species commonly found invading our ravines and parks. These plants are Bad Seeds.



**English Ivy**  
*Hedera helix*  
A climber that smothers almost all vegetation and can kill trees.



**Yellow Lamium**  
*Lamium galeobdolon*  
Common to hanging baskets, it acts like ivy, smothering native plants.



**Periwinkle**  
*Vinca minor*  
This trailing vine displaces native plants needed by wildlife.



**Morning Glory**  
*Convolvulus arvensis*  
This very persistent climbing vine smothers native plants.



**Japanese Knotweed**  
*Fallopia japonica*  
Dense, tall thickets can grow from a small root or stem, crowding out other plants.



**Giant Hogweed**  
*Heracleum mantegazzianum*  
Known for its umbrella shaped flower heads, it can reach up to 15 feet and its sap can cause severe burns.

## What Are Invasive Plants

Invasive plants are non-native plants that were introduced into our natural environment through seeds, cuttings, garden plants, etc. They grow and spread quickly, pushing out native plants, destroying habitat for fish, birds and other wildlife. Quite simply, they are Bad Seeds.

**Invasive plants cost us in many ways. They are expensive to control and eradicate. They can also cause erosion and silt problems in creeks. Some, like ivy, kill trees.**

Some invasive species have been introduced accidentally. Others started in gardens and then spread due to dumping of hanging baskets, garden waste or soil.

## How You Can Help

- Dispose of yard trimmings and invasive plants (except Giant Hogweed) in your Green Cart for curbside collection. Additional trimmings can be taken to the Coquitlam Transfer Station, 1200 United Boulevard, for free.
- Giant Hogweed is toxic and it is best to let a professional remove this plant. **CAUTION** – Please seek additional information if you are going to remove the plant yourself by visiting [coquitlam.ca/hogweed](http://coquitlam.ca/hogweed) and using the links to WorkSafe BC instructions.