

Invasive plant disposal protocol – District of Squamish

Overview

Invasive plants pose serious environmental, personal safety and economic threats to the Squamish area. The following protocol is designed to minimize the spread of invasive plants by promoting best practices for disposal and transport. It is intended to apply to municipal employees, businesses in the horticulture industry and private citizens. The District of Squamish is working with the Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council (SSISC) to develop and promote best management practices of invasive species throughout the Corridor. A certification course designed to raise awareness of effective invasive plant management is available free of charge through the Council – contact SSISC for more information (see contacts below).

Cost

In 2011 all disposal of invasive plants will be free as community members get familiar with the new sorting protocol. Costs for yard waste stay the same as in previous years (all prices subject to change in 2012):

- lawn clippings, leaves and herbaceous material (non-woody) - Free
- woody material requiring chipping - \$80/tonne

Protocol

1. Sort:

- Separate invasive plants banned from compost (see reverse for list) from rest of yard waste
- Where possible, place invasive plants in bags and seal tightly. Stickers that say 'invasive plants – do not compost' available for bags
- Large loads (do not need to be in plastic bags) require a day's notice before drop off. Call 604-898-5635 and set up a drop off time

2. Transport:

- Transport load to Squamish landfill in an enclosed manner to ensure no plant parts escape
- If invasive plants are not sealed in bags; tarps or other methods must be used to prevent any plant parts (including seeds) from escaping via transport

3. Check in:

- Proceed to weigh station/scale shack when you reach landfill and identify that you have invasive plants to dispose of

4. Unload:

- Unload into designated area(s) – see map on reverse
- Small loads of invasive plants go into bin by weigh station/scale shack (A)
- Invasive free yard waste to be dropped off at former location of burn bays (B)
- Large loads of invasive material to be unloaded at face of landfill (C) and promptly covered by landfill operator (reason that a day's notice is required). **Must have safety gear** (high visibility vest and safety boots) to be allowed to drive to face of landfill.

Contacts

District of Squamish Landfill Operations
Rod MacLeod 604-815-5021
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Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council
Kristina Swerhun 604-935-7665
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www.ssisc.info

Invasive plants banned from compost*

Priority 1

Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) - highly toxic, do not touch any part of plant with bare skin

Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) - can spread from less than a gram of root material

Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)

Priority 2

Blueweed; Viper's bugloss (*Echium vulgare*)

Butterfly bush (*Buddleja davidii*)

Cutleaf blackberry (*Rubus laciniatus*)

Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*)

Daphne; spurge laurel (*Daphne laureola*)

Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)

English holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)

English ivy & varieties (*Hedera helix* & var)

Field bindweed; morning glory (*Convolvulus arvensis*)

Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus/discolor*)

Orange hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*)

Periwinkle (*Vinca major, V. minor*)

Policeman's helmet (*Impatiens glandulifera*)

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)

Small touch-me-not (*Impatiens parviflora*)

Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*)

Tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*)

Yellow archangel; lamium (*Lamium galeobdolon*)

Yellow (common) toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)

Yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)

*Not an exhaustive list, contact SSISC (www.ssisc.info) for help with identification of additional invasive species and removal options for all priority species. A guide to Identification and Management of 60 priority species in the Corridor is available on the SSISC website under resources, and invasive plant management training is available through SSISC horticulture certification program.

Unload areas



A – Small loads of invasive plants to go into marked bin near scale shack

B – Yard waste free of invasive plants to be unloaded into marked compost pile (no plastic or rocks)

C – Large loads of invasive plants to be driven and unloaded at the face of the landfill under direction of landfill operator

Soil & fill infected with invasive seed or plant parts

Must treat the same as soil contaminated with chemicals and needs to be dropped off by appointment only for burial in the landfill. Charges may apply.