



Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society

On behalf of the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society (CSISS), I am writing to present our recommendation regarding the disposal of invasive species within our region. Invasive species pose a significant ecological threat, and it is crucial that we take responsible measures to mitigate their impact.

CSISS strongly recommends the following guidelines for the proper disposal of invasive species:

1. **Avoid Composting Invasive Species:** We emphasize the importance of not composting invasive species. Composting may not eliminate the seeds or reproductive parts of invasive plants, potentially leading to their proliferation when the compost is used in landscaping or gardening.
2. **Free Disposal at the Landfill:** The CSR District provides free disposal of invasive species at each of its landfill sites. Providing this service without additional charges encourages residents and businesses to dispose of invasive plants responsibly, reducing the risk of illegal dumping and further spread.
3. **Mandatory Double Layer of Black Plastic Bags:** To prevent the inadvertent spread of invasive species during transportation, we recommend that individuals be double-bag invasive plants in black plastic bags. This additional layer of protection will help contain seeds or plant fragments and minimize the chances of unintentional release.

In addition to these disposal guidelines, CSISS is committed to collaborating with the Columbia Shuswap Regional District and other stakeholders to explore alternative disposal methods and implement long-term solutions. Public awareness campaigns and educational initiatives are crucial components of our efforts to address invasive species management comprehensively.

We believe that by working together, we can safeguard our native ecosystems, preserve the natural beauty of our region, and promote responsible invasive species management practices.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to discussing these recommendations further and to working collaboratively toward effective strategies for invasive species management in our community.

