

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 anyone handling invasive species, including but not limited to businesses in the horticulture and construction industries, municipal employees, 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 for invasive species throughout the Corridor. An ‘*Invasive-Free*’ certification course, designed to raise awareness of effective invasive plant management, is available through SSISC (contact SSISC for details).

Definitions

- **Small load:** Invasive plant material that could fit in a curbside garbage tote and/or the dedicated invasive species bin in the Free Recycling Drop-Off Area at entrance of the Squamish Landfill. Generally, from a residential source.
- **Large load:** Collections of invasive plant material larger than a curbside garbage tote. Generally, from a commercial or development source.
- **Invasive Plant:** Plant species listed on the SSISC Priority Plant List: <https://ssisc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/SSISC-SPECIES-LIST-Priority-by-Sub-Region-2018-11-20-Website.pdf>

Disposal Protocol

	SMALL LOADS		LARGE LOADS
Disposal Options	Curbside (Garbage Tote)	Squamish Landfill (Invasive Species Bin)	Squamish Landfill (Scale)
Cost	Free	Free	Tipping Fees*
Notification	None	None	48-hours notice. Call 604-389-9920 or 604-898-5635 to set up a drop-off time.
Sort	Separate invasive plant material from other green waste and soil.		
Labels	Optional free stickers that say ‘ <i>invasive plants – do not compost</i> ’ are available at Municipal Hall.		
Enclosed Transport	Transport in an enclosed manner (e.g. using bags or tarps). Ensure no plant parts or seeds escape during transport.		
Disposal Details	Deposit in your curbside garbage tote. Invasive plants are not permitted in organic totes.	Deposit in the invasive species bin within the Free Recycling Drop-Off Area at the entrance of the landfill.	Proceed over the scale at the Squamish Landfill. Inform the Attendant that you have invasive plants to dispose of, and if you have the SSISC <i>Invasive-Free</i> certification. Follow instructions from Attendants as to where to proceed, and unload in the designated area.

*Tipping Fees

- The 2019 rates are \$65/tonne, or \$30/tonne for SSISC's *Invasive-Free* certified companies.
- To receive the reduced rate, a current *Invasive-Free* decal must be displayed or proof of *Invasive-Free* certification must be provided upon request.
- If a load contains items such as boulders, stumps, or other non-invasive plant material, the mixed waste tipping fee will be applied.
- Disposal of **knotweed** plant material, regardless of amount, is **free**.
- For information on Tipping Fees, see <https://squamish.ca/landfill>

Soil and fill, including that which contains invasive seeds or plant material, are **NOT** accepted at the Squamish Landfill.
Please contact a Qualified Environmental Professional for disposal options.

FINES for illegal dumping of any waste anywhere within the District:
\$10,000 per occurrence per day

Contacts:

District of Squamish, Sustainability Coordinator
604-815-5057 | squamish.ca

Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council
604-698-8334 | info@ssisc.ca | www.ssisc.ca