



Got knotweed or another invasive plant?

Information to consider when hiring a qualified contractor to treat invasive plants on your property



Invasive plants are those which occur outside their natural range and have significant ecological, social and/or economic impacts. There are many reasons why land managers and home owners should be concerned about the presence of invasive plants on their properties and take steps to minimize their impacts. Many of the major landscape and tree companies in Metro Vancouver work on invasive plants. However, it is important to ensure that contractors are qualified and experienced for successful removal of invasive species. Consider the following questions when evaluating companies to manage invasive plants on your property:

- Do you have experience dealing with invasive plants?
- Will you provide a free estimate and come to verify the identification of my plant?
- Are you licensed to work in my municipality?
- What methods will you use and when will I start to see plant damage/death?
- Do you and your staff have the appropriate licences and permits to apply herbicide?
- Does your price include follow-up visits and monitoring or just the initial treatment?
- What is your success rate?
- Can you provide a list of references who can verify your work?
- How soon can you send someone?

There are often multiple treatment methods possible for invasive plants. A good contractor will be able to answer the questions above, have experience using a variety of techniques, and will make recommendations based on your particular property and infestation. Note that the best course of treatment for knotweed in our region should include the use of herbicides.

No matter what method or contractor is used, dealing with invasive plants requires persistence! Many invasive plant infestations, especially knotweed, will require a few rounds of treatments, possibly over many years, before it is eradicated.

The ISCMV is available to help!

We provide invasive species workshops, attend community events, connect people to resources and offer additional information on our website.

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Thank you for your efforts to minimize the impacts of invasive plants on your property and the environment beyond.