Know the Invaders!

One of the first steps to preventing the spread of invasive species is being able to identify them. Below are some high priority species for our area:





Knotweed

Giant Hogweed





Blueweed

Yellow Star Thistle





Feral Pigs

Puncturevine

Visit **CKISS.ca** to learn more about the other high priority species for the Kootenays.



Play Clean Go

Help Prevent the Spread of Invasive Plants and Animals

- Arrive with clean gear
- Stay on trails
- Burn local firewood
- Before leaving the recreation site remove mud and seeds from your shoes, gear, vehicle and pets

Report Invaders

- Contact CKISS.ca
- Use 'Report-Invasives BC' & 'Report-a-Weed' Apps
- Call RAPP line 1-877-952-RAPP to report illegal dumping of garden waste on crown land
- Call provincial hotline 1-888-WEEDSBC

For more information





1-844-352-1160

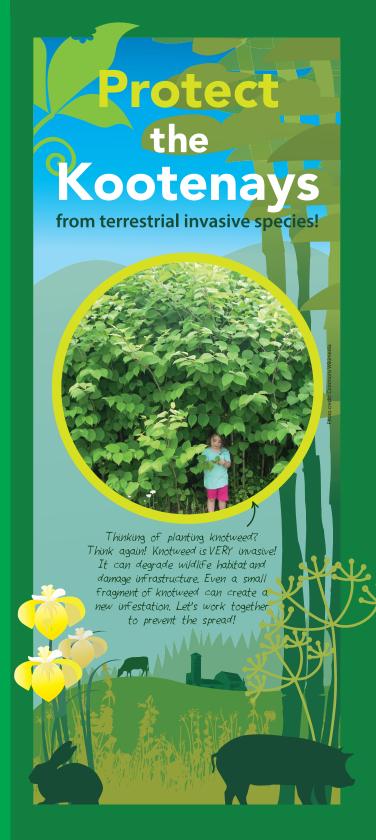
www.ckiss.ca

info@ckiss.ca

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What are Terrestrial **Invasive Species?**

Terrestrial Invasive Species are non-native plants and animals that are introduced into an ecosystem where they **do not belong.** They are extremely competitive and lack natural predators that keep them under control. They spread quickly and bring harmful

impacts to ecosystems, your health and wallet! Human behaviour is the #1-way invasive species are introduced & spread. You can make a difference. Learn what simple actions you can take to help protect the Kootenays!

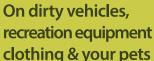
How do they spread?



Planting invasive species & improper disposal of garden waste

Even though some invasive species look beautiful they can quickly take over a garden.

Knotweed roots can grow up to 2m deep & 20m laterally. As a result knotweed can grow through the foundation of your home!



recreational site to another.

Are you unknowingly spreading invasive species to your favourite recreation spot?

What are their impacts?



Environmental

- Degrade wildlife habitat
- Reduce biodiversity & cause extinction of endangered species
- Displace native plants & animals

These infant painted turtles were suffocated by roots of invasive plants.

What can do to help?



Be PlantWise

- Choose non-invasive plants for your garden
- Dispose of invasive plants properly
- Visit CKISS.ca for proper disposal methods
- NEVER compost invasive species



On dirty vehicles,

Some small plants and seeds can easily "hitchhike" on your outdoor gear from one



Economic

- Increase taxes & maintenance costs
- Increase wildfire hazard risk to homes & infrastructure
- Reduce crop quality & yield
- Reduce property values

Invasive plants like scotchbroom & cheatgrass increase wildfire risk!



Play Clean Go

- Arrive and leave recreation site with clean clothing, gear, equipment & pets
- Stay on marked trails
- Educate yourself on high priority species in your community
- Report the invaders Carry a boot brush in your pack!



Firewood can be infested with insects, eggs or fungi spores. If you move firewood you might also be moving invasive species.

Do you know where your wood



Social

- Cause health issues
- Threaten drinking water
- Reduce recreation opportunities including biking, hiking & camping

Don't touch giant hogweed! Its sap is toxic & causes burns, blisters & scarring.



Buy it Where You Burn it

- Buy firewood where vou will burn it
- Burn it all on site, buy only what you'll need
- · Don't move firewood, never take it home

