



COTTAGERS | Action Plan

Keep invasive species away from your cottage — they will ruin the fun for everyone. To stop the spread, make sure you and your guests know the plan.

1. USE LOCAL FIREWOOD

Firewood may carry an invasive pest or disease that could harm our forests. Avoid transporting it across long distances. Buy and burn local firewood instead.

2. CLEAN YOUR GEAR

Before heading to or from the cottage, be sure to clean all of your gear. Make sure your watercraft, trailers, bicycles, all-terrain vehicles and boot bottoms are free of plant material and seeds, including mud that may contain seeds.

3. GROOM YOUR PETS

Give your pet's coat a good brushing to remove any seeds or plant parts it might have picked up.

4. NEVER RELEASE YOUR PETS

Never release aquarium plants or pets at the cottage or anywhere else. Some pets like goldfish are an invasive species.

5. GARDEN RESPONSIBLY

Choose native or non-invasive plants for your garden to avoid introducing or spreading invasive species. Avoid relocating plants from your home to your cottage garden, and vice versa. Do not dump yard waste in nearby natural areas as this can smother natural vegetation and spread invasive plants.

6. KEEP AN EYE OUT

Inspect your property and shoreline for any sign of invasion. To find out what species may be threatening your area, visit eddmaps.org/ontario.

7. REMOVE INVADERS RESPONSIBLY

Read the Ontario Invasive Plants Council's [Best Management Practice Series](#) to learn how to safely dispose of common invasive plants and more about how to manage them.

8. REPORT ALL INVADERS

Call the **Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters' Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711** to report an invasive species sighting or download the [EDDMapS Ontario app](#) to report an invader on the spot.

9. STOP THE INVASION

To learn more about how you can stop the invasion, visit ontario.ca/invasionON to download action plans for Boaters, Hikers, Cottagers and Gardeners.

For more information on invasive species and a list of our partners, visit ontario.ca/invasionON