

Campbell Valley Parks Association
In association with
Langley Environmental Partners Society

INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM

Project Outline

The Board of Directors of the Campbell Valley Park Association has given its approval to initiate a program to control and / or eliminate alien species in Campbell Valley Regional Park. The rationale is simple: certain alien plants are now and will continue to be threatening to the native flora of the Park, and potentially reduce the habitat quality of the Park for animals. Some of the most threatening alien plants are Himalayan blackberry, lamium, English ivy, Scotch broom, and purple loosestrife. Over the years, these species and others have colonized the park through a number of sources: nearby gardens, aerial seed dispersal, garden refuse, and other means. We believe that with a committed core group and the efforts of volunteers we can control this problem.

Although there are many introduced species of plants and animals in Campbell Valley Regional Park, the focus of our program will be *invasive plants*. Invasive for our purposes refers to plants that are not native to the Park, colonize quickly at the expense of native flora, and are not controlled by natural control mechanisms (native insects, fungi, or other naturally occurring biological control agents).

The purpose of the program is to control and / or eliminate some of the most invasive plant species in Campbell Valley Regional Park. To fulfill this purpose, the Invasive Species Program has set the following objectives:

1. Identify and mobilize volunteers for species program functions.
2. Map the distribution of the target invasive species within the Park.
3. Assess the feasibility of controlling the various target invasive species and adjust the program design as necessary.
4. Initial control and removal elements of the program.
5. Restore each site in accordance with program protocols.
6. Monitor control sites.
7. Conduct a regular program evaluation, and
8. Report findings to program participants and stakeholders.

The Campbell Valley Park Association is taking on this project in partnership with the Langley Environmental Partners Society, supported by the Greater Vancouver Regional District Parks Department. We are enthusiastic about launching this program and seek the broad support of stakeholders and the general public.