



Why be Concerned?

Invasive species are plants and animals that are not native to British Columbia and can have serious impacts on our environment, economy and human health. Some of BC's most harmful invasive species came from the intentional, improper disposal of aquariums and terrariums into our waters and other outdoor spaces.

Pet and Aquarium Owners

When no longer wanted, some exotic 'pet' species are often abandoned to nearby woods and waters where they can have huge ecological and environmental impacts. It is important for pet owners to understand a pet's life span and long-term care needs before adoption or purchase.

Releasing unwanted pets is inhumane, unethical and **ILLEGAL!**

Releasing unwanted pets into the wild is not an ethical or humane option. In most cases, pets will starve because they do not have skills to live in the wild, or are killed by predators or cars. The ones that do thrive and reproduce can have devastating impacts to the environment!



DON'T LET IT LOOSE!

BC's 'Pet' Invasives

BC is now home to the following introduced, invasive pet and plant species. Learn more at:
bcinvasives.ca

Don't Let it Loose BC!

Never release your plants and animals into the wild or dump aquariums or water garden debris into rivers, streams, lakes or storm sewers.

What Should I do Instead?

- » Contact the retailer where you purchased the animal/fish to see if they will take it back.
- » Contact science centers, zoos or aquariums to see if they can use the animal/fish for educational purposes.
- » Dry and freeze unwanted aquatic plants and add them to non-composted trash.
- » Consider humane euthanasia by a veterinarian.

REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES TO:
www.gov.bc.ca/invasive-species



Goldfish



Red Eared Slider Turtle



Brazilian Elodea



American Bullfrog



Eurasian Watermilfoil



Parrot's Feather



European Rabbit



Koi Carp

