

6.4 Keys to Success

The following keys to success have been identified by local government representatives involved in invasive species programs across BC:

- **Think regionally** – deal with issues such as EDRR, disposal or education at a regional level.
- **Contact your regional invasive plant/species committee** – to identify local resources and what programs are already operating in your area.
- **Pool resources** – where several local governments are interested in achieving the same outcome, such as educational materials, inventory or management plan.
- **Do not underestimate the power or education** – it can make a difference.
- **Use landowner incentives** – to encourage control on private land.
- **Engage communities and volunteers** – to assist with control efforts, education and other projects.
- **Engage and train staff** – to promote an interest in doing things right to control and prevent the spread of invasive species.
- **Collaborate with partners** – including interdepartmental, community groups, and multiple stakeholders.
- **Use existing resources** – such as work crews and budgets.
- **Incorporate best management practices** – into “everyday activities” such as park maintenance and landscaping, mowing, and movement of soil.
- **Identify a staff contact for invasive species** – so your local government can become informed and begin to get involved.
- **Prioritize species, areas and activities** – by using decision-making tools, working with neighbouring jurisdictions, and developing a strategic plan.
- **Designate manageable units for management** – to make planning, treatment and monitoring efforts much more focused and efficient. This may be areas within a regional district, areas of high priority species, or high value parks.
- **Develop regional educational and administrative policies** – to provide direction to municipalities.
- **Develop administrative and educational programs** – to provide incentives for municipalities.
- **Consider regulation** – to address private property concerns.
- **Consider developing a service** – to provide a budget for invasive species.
- **Do not get overwhelmed** – by all the invasive species that are out there, focus on the ones where you can make a difference.