

# Vectors of Spread: Invasive Species Getaway Vehicles!

**Challenge Stations Instructions:** Print, cut out, and provide at each respective station

## Challenge Station #1

### Clean Drain Dry and Aquatic Hitchhikers

You are heading out to play at Lake #1 (infested with an invasive species), bringing with you boats, paddleboards, floaties, and fishing gear. Tomorrow, you plan to go out with all of the same gear to Lake #2 (not infested with invasive species).

**Your challenge:** Can you Clean, Drain, and Dry all of your boats and gear so that you do not spread any invasive species (dried herbs) into the clean lake? Wait until the timer starts and then Go!

1. Put all water toys into the lake (bin) with floating herbs (invasive species). Move them around and play with them in the water.
2. Use tools (spray bottles, brushes, sponges, and cloths) to clean, drain, and dry all your equipment. Do this above the infested lake or over the ground (not over the clean lake).
3. When you believe your gear is free of all invasive species or when the time is up, call the Inspector. One by one, put each boat/ equipment into the second, clean lake bin.
4. The Inspector will record with a photograph or by counting how many herbs are transferred to the second lake.
5. Get ready for the next group. Make sure all boats/ equipment are rinsed and cleaned off. Clean lake #2 by filtering out all herbs or replacing water before the next group comes.

## Challenge Station #2

### Play Clean Go and Seeds in our Treads

You are heading out for a drive and to hike on a muddy trail. Watch out for invasive species stuck in the mud on your boots and tires!

**Your challenge:** Can you clean off all of your boots, tires, and other gear so that you don't accidentally spread any invasive species when you go out to another site the next day? Wait until the timer starts and then Go!

1. Play: 'Drive' your cars and other toys through the mud. Walk through the mud with your boots.
2. Clean: Use brushes to clean mud off tires, vehicles, and boots. When you think you're clean or when the time is up, call the Inspector.
3. Inspector records the number of seeds remaining on boots and vehicles.
4. Get ready for the next group: Add seeds to the soil/ mud patch, if needed.





Invasive Species  
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## Challenge Station #3

### Play Clean Go and Seeds that Stick

You are taking a walk with your dog (or horse or other pet) in a local field or forest path. Watch out for invasive ‘hitchhikers’ clinging to your clothing, boots, and pet!

**Your challenge:** Can you find and remove all the sticky seeds, plant parts, and insects from you and your pet before you leave the site? Wait until the timer starts and then Go!

1. Play: Put a big sock over your shoe and walk through the field/bin of sticky seeds/Velcro pieces. Have stuffies go for a “walk” and play in the bin.
2. Clean: Use boot brushes to clean off your socks and pets. Put any seeds or Velcro that you remove/brush off back into the bin. When you think you’re clean or when the time is up, call the Inspector.
3. Inspector records the number of seeds/Velcro pieces remaining on your clothing and pets.
4. Get ready for the next group: Make sure stuffies and socks are clean and have no seeds or Velcro pieces on them and put them back into their ‘homes’. Add Velcro or sticky seeds into the ‘field’/bin, if needed.

## Challenge Station #4

### Buy Local Burn Local and Who Hides in our Firewood

You are heading on a camping trip to your favourite forest, a long distance away from where you live. You have a bunch of firewood - should you bring it with you? Take a closer look to see why you shouldn’t move firewood and should always buy and burn local firewood.

**Your challenge:** Find all of the rice or beads (representing invasive insect eggs, larvae and adults) hidden in your wood to learn why you shouldn’t move firewood. Wait until the timer starts and then Go!

1. Look closely and use tweezers or other tools to extract ‘insects’ from the firewood. Make sure to remove them gently to minimize damaging the wood for the next groups.
2. Put all the discovered ‘insects’ into collection containers.
3. When you think you’ve found them all or when the time is up, call the Inspector.
4. Inspector records how many insects you’ve found and how many are remaining in the wood.
5. Get ready for the next group: Hide beads/rice in the bark, holes, and crevices of the wood.

**Note:** If you are the first team at the station, make sure that someone has already hidden ‘insects’ inside the wood.