



Learn to Be PlantWise!



Common periwinkle at Thetis Lake; ISCBC

INVASIVE SPECIES AND HORTICULTURE— WHAT'S THE CONNECTION?

The ornamental horticulture industry is a key pathway for the introduction and spread of invasive plants. Some plants that are fast-growing and spread easily can become invasive. A few notable examples include Purple loosestrife and Giant hogweed. Both were marketed for their attractive qualities, but quickly spread to wetlands and crowded out native plants. There are several similarly invasive plants that are still available for purchase from nurseries and garden centres such as Common periwinkle and English ivy.

WHAT ARE INVASIVE SPECIES?

Invasive species are non-native plants and animals that harm BC's environment, economy and society. They rapidly establish and spread, outcompete native species and cost millions of dollars annually to control and treat.

WHAT CAN I DO?

As a gardener, property owner or horticulture industry member, you are a key partner in preventing the spread of invasive horticulture species!

PLANTWISE FOR HOME GARDENERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS

- » Know what you grow—avoid purchasing or planting invasive species!
- » Practice responsible treatment and disposal methods
- » Visit: beplantwise.ca to learn more

PLANTWISE FOR THE HORTICULTURE INDUSTRY—NURSERIES, GREENHOUSES, GARDEN CENTERS

The Invasive Species Council of BC (ISCBC) is seeking a range of industry partners to expand the provincial PlantWise network. Partner groups are essential to enable increased delivery of consistent and effective information on horticulturally invasive plants across the province to a greater number of people. More partners, province-wide, will also enable more frequent face-to-face interactions with stakeholders, promoting and supporting positive behaviour change.

JOIN OUR PLANTWISE PARTNER PROGRAM!

The PlantWise Industry Partnership Program works with and supports members of the ornamental horticulture industry as they phase out the sale of known regionally invasive plants and offer similar non-invasive, alternative species instead. The program provides an industry standard for being invasive plant-free. It includes a voluntary partnership between ISCBC and businesses via a signed code of conduct, phasing out 28 unwanted and invasive plants based on the Grow Me Instead (GMI) resource, promotion of non-invasive alternative ornamentals, staff training, customer education and self-regulation.

Visit plantwise.ca to join or call the ISCBC office at 250-305-1003. An ISCBC staff person will contact you to discuss your program goals and interest in partnering.

REPORT INVASIVE PLANTS

Early detection is critical to stop the spread of invasive plants. You can help detect and locate new infestations. If you see a plant that looks 'out of place,' or have concerns, we encourage you to report it:

- » Visit bcinvasives.ca/report for ways to report online and from a mobile device
- » Call ISCBC at 1-888-933-3722

