

The 5 W's (+H) of Organizing a Weed Pull

WHO?	WHAT?	WHERE?	WHEN?	WHY?	HOW?
Consider the age, ability, and skill level of the group	Consider the purpose of the pull. What plant are you managing?	Consider location, safety, logistic, accessibility	Consider season, duration, time of day	Consider your goals	Consider removal methods, best practices, and disposal
Know Your Audience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade level Buddy classes Special needs Accessibility Adult to student ratio Education assistants Parents/guardians 	Plant Characteristics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety concerns (thorny, toxic) Traditional uses (foods, medicines) Equipment needed Can it spread easily 	Location <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schoolyard Garden Park or protected area Trail Field Roadside Sensitive habitat Proximity to water 	Seasonality- People <p>Special gear for the weather</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extra water Sunscreen Sunglasses Layers Rain gear Rain boots Hot chocolate 	Identify Your Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum Environmental stewardship Reconciliation Social responsibility Outdoor physical activity Collaboration Emotional regulation Competencies/skills Educate the public 	Permissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School administration and/or district Land managers Municipality for disposal
Partner Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Administration School District Parents; PAC Education assistants School maintenance and operations staff Indigenous community Elders Buddy classes Naturalist clubs Community groups Local university or college Regional invasive species organizations 	Tools and Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shovels Hand pruners Heavy duty garbage bags Tarps Gloves (various sizes) Boot brushes Loppers Mattocks Reciprocating saw Water for cleaning First Aid Kit Field ID guides Camera/phone 	Safety and Logistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access Covered area Bathroom Roads and traffic Area for bus to turnaround Hazards (people, waste, dogs, wildlife) Cell phone coverage 	Seasonality- Plants and Habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soil moisture (for ease of removal) Best time to remove species (e.g. before going to seed) Avoid harming native species (e.g. don't remove when birds are nesting within the shrubs/thickets or when native wildflowers could be trampled) 	Identify Student Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn something new Gain skills Antidote to eco-anxiety Fun Outdoors with friends Physical activity Volunteer hours Put on resume Give back to nature and community 	Best Practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Species-specific removal techniques and equipment What tools to use and how to use them safely How to prevent soil disturbance How to prevent spread seeds and plant parts to new areas Appropriate disposal Replant disturbed areas with native plants
	Student Clothing and Gear <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Snacks Hat Long sleeves Long pants Closed-toe shoes/boots Sunglasses/eye protection Journal 	Jurisdiction- Land Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School district Municipal Provincial Federal (Crown) Indigenous Private 	Follow Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring Timing of next/ongoing removal Reflection and learning extensions Sharing/ "Horn tooting": articles to local paper, reports to School District 		