

# HIMALAYAN BLACKBERRY

## *Rubus armeniacus*



Himalayan Blackberry is a robust invasive plant species and difficult to get rid of. It resembles an arching woody shrub whose canes are thorny and vine-like. The flowers are 5-petaled and vary from white to light pink in colour. It forms large, dense, impenetrable thickets that limit the movement of large animals and takes over stream channels and banks. Thickets can increase flooding and erosion by preventing the establishment of deep-rooted native shrubs. Be persistent, even though it has tasty berries it overtakes native wild berries, plants and flowers.

### HOW TO REMOVE:

- Wear proper clothing. It is important to cover up before removing Himalayan Blackberry. The spiky thorns can cause skin irritation. Durable gloves, long sleeves, long pants and proper shoes are recommended.
- Cut the stems down to the root ball.
- Bundle stems onto a tarp without leaving behind bits of the plant, a new bush can grow from a short stem cutting.
- Dig down and around the root ball and remove.
- Place onto a tarp and cover for transportation to a proper green waste facility. **DO NOT COMPOST** fresh cut green plants or roots. Disposal facilities: Salish Soils, Pender Harbour Transfer Station, Gibson's Residential Green Waste Drop off Site.
- Mowing several times a year can be effective but can also stunt the growth of desirable native species.
- Grazing by goats has proven effective.
- Alternative plants: Boysenberry, Nootka Rose, Marionberry, Thimbleberry.
- Additional info: <http://bcinvasives.ca/invasive-species/identify/invasive-plants/himalayan-blackberry>



[www.penderharbourwildlife.com](http://www.penderharbourwildlife.com)

