

WHAT ARE INVASIVE PLANTS AND WHY ARE THEY A CONCERN?

Plants that are not native to Gambier Island disrupt the balance of the natural ecosystem. They may take over habitat that would naturally be home to Native plants. My list covers some plants that I have observed and photographed in what we call the New Brighton and Gambier Harbour to West Bay area. I would like to acknowledge that I am living and growing on land first inhabited by the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw people and they call this beautiful place Chá7elkwnech

Native plants are more likely to support native insects (pollinators), native birds, native animals and even native microorganisms of the forest floor. Plant chemistry can alter the soil composition. Not all non-native plants are "Invasive". Some are referred to as "Naturalized", meaning that they have begun to reproduce in the new non-native environment. All non-native plants are "Exotic"

EXOTIC PLANTS

Plants in this column are all classified as **Invasive** in BC. Except Foxglove & Wall Lettuce



Himalayan Blackberry *Rubus armeniacus*

Rubus bifrons & *Rubus lanciniatus*

These species grow very fast in disturbed sites and root easily when their arching cane tips touch the ground. They smother all native berry plants and ground cover. Very flammable debris.

For more Plant Identification and Status go to:

E-Flora BC

<https://linnet.geog.ubc.ca/biodiversity/eflora/index.html>

<https://bcinvasives.ca/play-your-part/plantwise/grow-me-instead/>

SUGGESTED NATIVE ALTERNATIVES



Salmonberry ***NPSMPED ECH** *Rubus spectabilis*

Thimbleberry **NPSMPED ECH** *Rubus parviflorus*

Red Huckleberry **NPSMPED ECH** *V. parvifolium*

Evergreen huckleberry **N S MEV EDECH** *V. ovatum*

Oval-leaved blueberry **NPSMEDECH** *V. ovalifolium*



Nootka rose ***N S M P E D ECH** *Rosa nutkana*



Pacific Blackberry ***N P V H** *Rubus ursinus*

Exotic vs. ***N**ative that grows best in ***S**un, **P**art**S**hade, **D**ry soil or **M**oist. It is **P**erennial, **E**vergreen, **T**oxic

***G**Round cover, **V**ine, **E**Dible, **N**itrogen**F**ixer **E**rosion**C**ontrol, **H**abitat (for Native Birds &/or Pollinators)



Spurge Laurel

Daphne laureola

Propagated by birds. Care should be taken in removal. **Sap is Toxic. It can cause skin irritation & Coma**



Common Burdock

Arctium minus

Common Periwinkle

Vinca minor

Bindweed (Morning glory) *Convolvulus arvensis*

Japanese honeysuckle *Lonicera japonica*

English Ivy *hedera helix*

Pacific Rhododendron

R. macrophyllum

*N PS M EV EC H



Red flowering currant

Ribes sanguineum

*N S M P EC H (early)

OsoBerry **H same as above** *Osmaronia cerasiformis*

Red Twig dogwood **N S PS P EC H** *Cornus sericea*

Habitat Note Native leaf cutting bee foraged circles



Western honeysuckle

Lonicera ciliosa

*N PS M P GR V EC H



Bearberry

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi

*N S PS D M EV GR EC H

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*GRound cover, Vine, EDible, NitrogenFixer ErosionControl, Habitat (for Native Birds &/or Pollinators)



Yellow Archangel

Lamium galeobdolon



Oregon Grape **N GR EV EC H** *Mahonia nervosa*

Native leaves are in pairs on the stem vs. alternate arrangement of exotic English Holly.



St. John's Wort

Hypericum perforatum



Oregon Grape Holly *Mahonia aquifolium*

N S PS EV EC H

Snowberry **N SD PECH** *Symphoricarpos albus*

Smooth Sumac **N SD PECH** *Rhus glabra*

Pacific crabapple **N SD PECH** *Malus fusca*



English Holly

Ilex aquifolium



Bull Thistle

Cirsium vulgare



Saskatoon Berry *Amelanchier alnifolia*

N S PS D M P ED EC H (early)

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Scotch broom

Cytisus scoparius

CHOP N DROP method for REMOVAL Cut down before it flowers & seeds. It is a Nitrogen fixing plant. Decompose in place.

Bamboo (Running species) vs. Clumping

Knotweed *P. wallichii*, *R. bohemica*, *R. japonica* & *R. sachalinensis*

Butterfly Bush *Buddleja davidii*

English Laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*

The following list of perennials have all become naturalized. They are all exotic and can outgrow native habitat plants. It is best to remove them and plant with Native Perennials & Ground cover from Native column to the right.



Cat's ear

Hypochaeris raticata

Yellow Flag iris

Iris pseudacorus

Oxeye Daisy

Leucanthemum vulgare

Common Tansy

Tanacetum vulgare

Tansy Ragwort

Jacobaea vulgaris

Salal *N S PS D EV GR EC H *Gaultheria shallon*

Willow *Salix hookeriana*, *S. lasiandra*, *S. discolor*
N S PS D M P NF EC H



Alder N S PS D M P NF EC H *Alnus incana*

Pacific Madrone N S D EV EC H *Arbutus menziesii*

Sword fern N PS D EV GR EC *Polystichum munitum*

Deer fern N PS M P GR EC H *Struthiopteris spicant*

The following Native Perennials and Ground cover provide early to late season Habitat.



Western Red Columbine *Aquilegia formosa*

Big leaf Lupine *Lupinus polyphyllus*

Douglas Iris *Iris douglasiana*

Tough leaf Iris *Iris tenax*

Pacific Bleeding heart *Dicentra formosa*

Stonecrop *Sedum divergens*, *S. spathulifolium*

Trailing Yellow Violet *Viola sempervirens*

Golden eyed grass *Sisyrinchium californicum*

Common Bunchberry *Cornus canadensis*

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Forget me not	<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i>
Rose campion	<i>Lychnis coronaria</i>
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Lily of the Valley	<i>Convallaria majalis</i>
Dame's Rocket	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>
Scentless Chamomile	

*Tripleurospermum perforatum*

Bluebells	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>
Spread by seed and bulb division. Extremely hard to remove. Remove flowers before they seed & stems before they flower	
Canada Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Mountain bluet	<i>Centaurea montana</i>
Quack grass/Couch grass	<i>Elmus repens</i>
Exotic but not invasive:	

Wall lettuce *Mycelis muralis*

Foxglove "extremely abundant exotic in BC"
Digitalis purpurea. For more go to: [Invasive Species Council of BC](https://bcinvasives.ca/take-action/identify/)

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Large leaf Avena *Geum macrophyllum*Camas *Camassia quamash*Douglas Aster *Symphyotrichum subspicatum*Pearly Everlasting *Anaphalis margaritacea*

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