

# How to Get Rid of Pest Plants & Weeds Safely



- a. Follow best practice outlined in the [Forest & Bird Weed Guide](#)
- b. Read any of our pest weed factsheets to learn more about how to control a certain weed.
- c. Work on what you have the least of first! You are likely to be able to eradicate several species quickly.
- d. Borrow free tools or herbicide gels from us at the [PFK Tool Shed](#).
- e. Dispose of pods, roots and seed heads in our [community pest plant bin](#). Other safe disposal methods include:
  - Instead of digging them up, cutting and pasting stumps of pest plants (like ginger, arum lily, canna lily etc) with herbicide and leaving the roots to die and disintegrate in the soil
  - All non-regenerating weed tissues, such as wild ginger or woolly nightshade leaves and stems, can be left as mulch or home composted. Be very careful you know which these are as many pest plants grow roots if their stem touch the ground.
  - Fleshy pest plants (like tradescantia and plectranthus) can be rotted down contained in special large black weed bags (or tied rubbish bags left in the sun) on site to create compost. You can borrow these from the PFK Tool Shed.
  - Invasive seeds, roots and other regenerative weed tissues can be rotted in a container of water with a lid - regenerative parts start to rot down after a few months, up to two years.
  - For small volumes of pest plant material please place in your household waste.
  - If you have a green waste collection, please check if this goes to 'hot composting', which kills seeds and roots of pest plants, and use it if it does.
- f. If you are not able to do the work yourself, here is a list of [Weed Control Contractors](#) familiar with handling pest weeds.