

From: [Grand River Conservation Authority](#)
To: [Samantha Lawson](#); [Karen Armstrong](#)
Subject: FW: CCIPR is seeking an endorsement from Grand River Conservation Authority
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 2:44:00 PM

To the Board of Directors Grand River Conservation Authority:

I am writing to you on behalf of the newly formed Canadian Coalition for Invasive Plant Regulation (CCIPR). The Credit Valley Conservation Authority and Hamilton Region Conservation Authority are helping us to spread the word about the need for regulation of invasive plant species in the horticultural and pet/aquarium trade. We are hoping your Grand River Conservation Authority will assist us in this endeavour.

Canada is in urgent need of a nationally coordinated plan to reduce the spread of invasive plant species. Our legislative framework is out-of-date and fragmented and responsibility for who controls invasive plants is unclear.

Improved federal and provincial legislation and regulations are required to limit the spread of both terrestrial and aquatic invasive plants. Please join the CCIPR in seeking change.

Specifically, CCIPR is calling for the following measures:

- Effective pre- and post-border invasive species risk assessments,
- Bans on the sale and movement of high-risk invasive plant species,

- Labelling to identify and educate the public about lower-risk invasive plants,
- A verifiable industry-wide Code of Conduct, and
- Public education including alternatives to invasive plants.

Each year, hundreds of millions of dollars and countless volunteer hours are spent in efforts across Canada to control invasive plant species, namely plants that arrived from outside of North America. Many of these invasive plants are sold to the public by the horticultural industry, as well as by the pet and aquarium trades.

Gardeners are often shocked when they discover that plants they bought at a nursery are invasive. They represent a small percentage of all plants sold,, but they do so enormous ecological damage. They really need to be regulated or restricted to limit their spread and impact

Our grassroots coalition consists of ecologists, invasive plant experts, , environmentalists and motivated home gardeners from across Canada concerned with the spread of invasive plant species. In the few months since we became established, we are proud to have received the endorsement of many groups including the David Suzuki Foundation, Ontario Nature Beausoleil First Nation, and as I mentioned conservation authorities like your own.

Join us in preventing the serious ecological and socio-

economic consequences of invasive plants in our local communities. Please visit our website, CCIPR.ca to learn more.

Three ways you can make a difference:

- Become a supporter by endorsing our objectives.
- Become a partner by helping us spread the word. Join other organisations in showing your support by adding your logo to our [partners page](#).
- Join our working group and share your ideas, skills and enthusiasm.

If you agree with our objectives, please let us know if we can use the **Grand River Conservation Authority** name and logo to further spread the word and call for change.

Thank you for your consideration,
Cathy Kavassalis
CCIPR Team Coordinator

Canadian Coalition for Invasive Plant Regulation

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