

The Benefits of Natural Areas

Delta has a wide variety of important natural areas including Watershed Park, Cougar Canyon, the Delta Nature Reserve, Burns Bog, and Ladner Harbour. These natural areas and habitats support a diversity of wildlife and contribute to green space in Delta.

Natural areas also:

- Reduce air pollution
- Encourage healthy outdoor activities
- Help to combat climate change
- Provide shade and cool the air
- Recharge groundwater supplies and protect streams from polluted run-off.



Questions?

For information on invasive plants and natural areas contact the Office of Climate Action & Environment at:

Tel: 604-946-3253 or
E-mail: cae@delta.ca

For information on Delta's Green Can and Yard Trimmings program contact the Engineering Department at:

Tel: 604-946-3260 or
E-mail: Engineering@delta.ca



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Natural Areas Under Attack!

The Harmful Effects of Dumping Yard Waste



Learn how to help preserve Delta's
important natural habitats from
ravines to shorelines.

What's the problem?

Although yard waste is natural and will eventually decompose, it is **not** appropriate to dump this material in to any natural area, including woodlots, ravines, streambanks or fields. This includes everything from grass clippings and raked up leaves to twigs and branches. Natural areas can only handle the leaves and debris they produce themselves.

- Yard waste dumping in ravines can affect the natural balance of the slope.
- Yard waste can block creeks, leading to flooding and erosion of natural habitat.
- What you grow in your yard may not be native to this area. Invasive plants can spread, smother, choke, and negatively impact native plants and natural habitats.
- Invasive ornamental plants such as ivy, periwinkle, and lamium do not help to stabilize the ravine banks or steep slopes.
- Accumulated woody yard waste raises the fire hazard.

What is Yard Waste?

- Grass clippings
- Leaves
- Tree, hedge trimmings & branches
- Plants, weeds, & flowers

Does yard waste compost in the forest?

Yes, but yard waste can overload a forest's natural biological processes. Large piles of yard waste, especially of grass clippings, are too wet and compacted to decompose quickly, creating rotting odours and attracting rodent pests.

How you can help!

- Do not dispose of yard waste in ravines, parks, or natural areas.
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn to recycle nutrients and organic matter back into the soil, and reduce fertilizer and watering needs.
- Use a backyard composter and create free topsoil for your garden.
- If you do not intend to produce compost on your own property, then place all yard waste into the Green Bin for proper disposal.

Join the Fight!

Local volunteer community groups are working to remove invasive plants in Delta's parks and along our shorelines.

To get more information on how to join a invasive plant removal event, please contact the Office of Climate Action & Environment at:
E-mail: cae@delta.ca or
Tel: 604-946-3253

