

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**



**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 any natural areas including woodlots, ravines or fields. This includes everything from grass clippings and raked up leaves to twigs and branches. These natural areas can only handle the leaves and debris that they produce themselves.

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

What is Yard Waste?

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

Does yard waste compost in the forest?

No! Additional yard waste can overload the natural forest ecosystem system. Large piles of yard waste are too big and wet to decompose quickly and attract pests and rodents.

How you can help!

- Do not dispose of yard waste in ravines or natural areas.
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn to recycle nutrients back into the soil, reduce fertilizer needs, evaporation and the need for water.
- Use a backyard composter and create free soil for your garden.
- Use Delta's weekly Green Can and Yard Trimmings curbside pick-up service that are collected on the same day as garbage and recycling.

Join the Action!

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

For more information on how to join an invasive plant removal event, please contact the Office of Climate Action & Environment at:

E-mail: cae@delta.ca or

Tel: 604-946-3253

