



# Invasive Investigators

**Step 1:** What biosecurity actions should each person in the river picture take to stop invasive species from spreading? Match the biosecurity action to the river picture by putting its number here.

| Biosecurity Action  | River Picture # | Invasive Alien Plant Letter |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Clean mud of your bike and check your tires for seed and plant pieces.                | <u>5</u>        |                             |
| Clean the outside and inside of your boat, drain it and dry it.                       | <u>2</u>        | <u>B</u>                    |
| Don't let plants escape from your garden.   | <u>7</u>        | <u>D</u>                    |
| Wipe down your fishing gear when moving between locations.                            | <u>6</u>        |                             |
| Clean your shoes before and after each walk in nature to stop hitchhiking seeds.      | <u>3</u>        | <u>C</u>                    |
| Bush your dog off before and after each hike to remove hitchhiking seeds from fur.    | <u>1</u>        | <u>A</u>                    |
| Clean off road vehicles regularly to avoid carrying seeds in mud over long distances. | <u>4</u>        |                             |
| Don't move firewood too far, buy it as close to your fire as possible.                |                 | <u>E</u>                    |

**Step 2:** Match the invasive alien plant on the next page to the best biosecurity action by adding the letter here.

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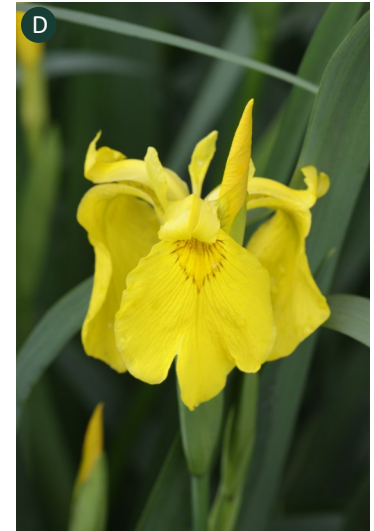
**A. Himalayan balsam** has pink flowers that turn into exploding seed pods! The seed pods explode when something touches them, if you walk through this plant you might end up having these seeds all over your clothes, backpacks or in your fur!



**B. Canada waterweed** grows in fresh slow moving water. It fills up a riverway and makes it hard to move through. Its important to make sure your boat doesn't take to new areas. It is only in a few place on PEI.



**C. Garlic mustard** has very small seeds that can stick to the bottom of your shoes. If this plant grows near cows, it could make their milk taste like garlic. Ick!



**D. Yellow flag iris** is sometimes planted by gardeners because of its pretty yellow flower. Its seeds escape because they float and move with the rain and melting snow.



**E. Brown spruce longhorn beetle** is not yet found on our island (2023). This is a good thing because this beetle kills spruce trees. If firewood is brought onto our province from off island, it could be accidentally brought here in the wood because even clean looking firewood can have pests.