



Restore
Hibiscus & Bays

December 2020

Tree Privet and Chinese Privet

Tree privet and Chinese privet are fast growing evergreen trees that can be very long lived. These trees produce many highly viable seeds that are widely dispersed, most commonly by birds. Privet seeds are very shade tolerant and form dense understories, shading out native species and eventually replacing parts of the canopy. In some cases, they form entire canopy coverage. When in bloom, privet produces large amounts of pollen that can cause health problems for people. The leaves and berries of privet are also poisonous to animals and people.

If you notice these pest trees on your property, please take action as soon as possible.

For further guidance and questions, email info@restorehb.org.nz

www.restorehb.org.nz

Report

Report the weed using the [EcoTrack.nz](https://www.ecotrack.nz) app.



Spread the Word

Talk to your neighbours and encourage them to take action too!



Remove

Hand pull seedlings. For small to medium sized stems, cut near to the ground and immediately paste a thin film of MetGel on the cut stem. For large trees, cut two rings 20-30cm apart around the base of the trunk. Remove the bark between each ring, then apply a thin film of MetGel around the exposed part of the tree. The gradually dying tree will provide canopy cover for emerging native plants.



Dispose

Dispose of any seeds and flowers in your rubbish bin to go to landfill, securely tied inside a plastic bag – to stop it spreading to other areas.



Further Resources

[Process after Reporting Pest Plants](#)

[Health and Safety Guidance](#)

[Other Pest Plant Resources](#)

[To borrow tools and equipment, visit our tool library.](#)