

COMMON PERIWINKLE

Vinca minor



Common Periwinkle, also known as creeping myrtle, is a trailing ground cover that forms dense mats that suppress the growth of native plants through direct competition, and degrades animal habitat. It has glossy evergreen leaves and bright starry blue flowers. It roots at the internodes where stems touch the ground. The plants establish and grow quickly with a tolerance to poor soils and unfavourable weather conditions.

HOW TO REMOVE:

- Mowing or string trimming the plant works well in containing the tangled stems.
- Be cautious with the trimmings, as periwinkle will produce new plants with just a tiny bit of stem to ground contact, even when severed from the parent plant.
- For manual removal, dig deep into the soil, starting at the edge of the problem area.
- Make a 60 cm (2ft) trench around the problem area and loosen the first section of roots.
- Pull as you dig further into the bed, loosening the soil as you go.
- In the following years remove any small plants immediately.
- Burn or place in heavy trash bags for transportation to a proper green waste disposal facility. **DO NOT COMPOST** fresh cut green plants or roots. Disposal facilities: Salish Soils, Pender Harbour Transfer Station, Gibson's Residential Green Waste Drop off Site.
- Alternative plants: Bunchberry, Kinnickinnick, Small-flowered Alumroot, Woodland Strawberry.
- Additional info: <https://bcinvasives.ca/invasive-species/identify/invasive-plants/common-periwinkle>



www.penderharbourwildlife.com

