

Procedure for Disposal of Yard Material Containing European Fire Ants

Invasive European Fire Ants (EFAs) can be aggressive when disturbed and deliver a painful sting. As such, it is important to prevent the spread of these ants to other properties, public spaces, or disposal sites.

Please follow the nine steps below for responsible disposal of yard material containing EFAs including wood, soil, or mulch:

1. Purchase the following:
 - a. A roll of thick plastic (aka: Poly) from a hardware store.
 - b. “Ant Out” with the active ingredient Permethrin. Obtain the formula without a surfactant.
 - c. Roll(s) of durable tape.
2. Lay infested materials out onto as many cut sections of plastic as required. Use precautions such as boots, gloves, and long pants & sleeves.
3. Spray all infested materials evenly and thoroughly.
4. Roll the infested material up in the plastic, fold over the ends, and robustly seal all seams with durable tape.
5. Leave the sealed packages in the sun for two days.
6. Carefully load the packages in to a vehicle so as to not rip the plastic. Transport to the Bailey Landfill.
7. Inform the scale attendant that you have material infested with European Fire Ants and follow their directions.
8. At the direction of landfill staff, unload the packages carefully so as to not rip the plastic and place them in the designated bin.
 - a. Return to the scale to weigh out. Standard disposal fees will apply; minimum fee is \$5.00 for up to 50kg.
9. Wash out the truck box or vacuum out the car used for transport.

For more information call the City’s Environmental Services Department at 604.793.2907.

If you suspect you have been stung by EFAs and are experiencing a strong reaction call HealthLinkBC at 8-1-1 for advice, or call 9-1-1 for severe (anaphylactic) reactions.

