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## Outdoor Items Checklist

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Cleaning and checking belongings that have been stored outdoors *before* the move is important to prevent transporting an invasive species with you.

This checklist includes photos of egg masses and other life stages of invasive species to demonstrate how some signs of life can easily go unnoticed. If you believe you may have found an invasive species during this process, you could collect and research it. An internet search may help determine if the species has already been documented in your area; if the species has not been documented or you have other questions, contact the state or local agriculture department.

Please use this checklist as a guide to organize your cleaning and checking process. The goal is to look over each item thoroughly and remove any foreign material. If there are unnoticed life stages of an invasive species on your belongings, your process will remove them. For each item, pay special attention to grooves, crevices, and the underside/interior.

Directions are provided for some common belongings kept outdoors, but you may have different items. Some durable items (e.g. plastic lawn chairs) can be efficiently cleaned using a hose or compressed air followed by a quick check of the surface and crevices. For smaller and/or delicate items, it may be best to check the item's surfaces first then clean smaller sections as necessary.

**If you have *already* moved, please still check your belongings for invasive species. If you find potential evidence of an invasive species, please report it to the Oregon Department of Agriculture Insect Pest Prevention & Management Program at 1-800-525-0137.**



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### Grills / BBQs / Fire Pits

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- Use a brush to remove debris from the grate.

Remove wood, charcoal, and ashes (if applicable).

Use a brush, hose, or compressed air to remove foreign material, including dirt and debris.

Inspect under the lid and the full exterior.

Carefully check the underside, crevices, and joints/seams.

Use a stiff brush or rag to aid in removing stuck material.

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## **Furniture with Fabric**

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- Use a brush, hose, or compressed air to remove foreign material, including dirt and debris.

Removal of the fabric portion for hand or machine-washing may be an option for your item.

Inspect all surfaces.

Carefully check the underside, crevices, and seams/joints.

Use a stiff brush or rag to aid in removing stuck material.



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## **Furniture (chairs, tables, benches, umbrellas, fence panels, etc.)**

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- Use a brush, hose, or compressed air to remove foreign material, including dirt and debris.

Inspect all surfaces.

Carefully check the underside, crevices, and seams/joints.

Use a stiff brush or rag to aid in removing stuck material.

Life stages of invasive species often go unnoticed on your belongings because they are in crevices, corners, or joints that make them harder to spot.

This photo shows a gypsy moth egg mass in a corner *and* on the underside of a picnic table (USFS).



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## **Plant Containers & Gardening Tools**

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- Use a brush, hose, or compressed air to remove any foreign material, including dirt and debris.

Inspect the surface.

Carefully check the underside, inside, and crevices.

If you suspect your items have been in contact with an infected plant or diseased soil, please take the additional precaution of disinfection. This is a common gardening practice that prevents spreading diseases between different plants and areas.

Two common options are to wipe down the item with 70% isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol) or soak it in a 10% bleach solution; choose a disinfecting method that works best for you and the item.

Carefully check the underside, crevices, and seams/joints.

Use a stiff brush or rag to aid in removing stuck material.



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## **Storage Containers / Totes / Bins**

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- Use a brush, hose, or compressed air to remove foreign material, including dirt and debris.

Inspect the surfaces.

Carefully check the underside, inside, and crevices.

Use a stiff brush or rag to aid in removing stuck material  
This photo shows the underside of a storage container lid with an egg mass. This is a life stage of some invasive species that can go unnoticed until you check your belongings.

