



Don't be a tank tipper!

Do not release aquarium fish into our local waterways

Invasive ornamental fish:

- compete with native fish for food and space and introduce disease and degrade habitats
- have the potential to rapidly outnumber native fish and dominate aquatic communities
- have good invader traits, such as:
 - fast and frequent reproduction
 - consume a flexible diet
 - high tolerance for diverse environments
 - low vulnerability to predators
- aggressive nature — they nip the fins of other fish species and eat their eggs
- mature early and have large annual numbers of broods – fry also have a high survival rate
- can gulp air from the water's surface when oxygen content is low.

Legislative requirements

Under the Act, everyone has a general biosecurity obligation to take reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with invasive fish in their possession or under their control.

What can you do?

Don't

- Use ornamental fish as bait
 - transport them from one location to another: penalties apply.
- Return them to the water when caught.

Do

- Dispatch humanely and dispose of by burying above the high-water mark or by wrapping securely and placing in the nearest serviced rubbish bin.
- Join your local native fish stocking association.
- Get involved in local government and natural resource management activities that improve riverine and aquatic habitat for native fish.



Queensland
Government