

WeedWise tips to target knotweed

⊙ *Know your invader.* Familiarize yourself with the identification, life cycle, and management of the invasive knotweeds.

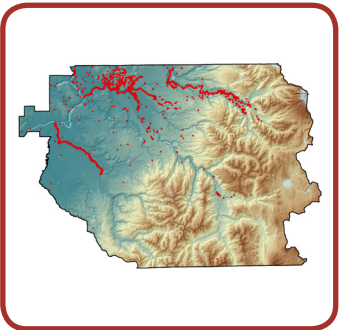
⊙ *Inspect your property.* Monitor areas around your property, particularly along streams and roadsides for knotweed.

⊙ *Control the knotweeds before they become a problem.* Control knotweed when plants are small and manageable to reduce the time and expense needed to eradicate them.

⊙ *Know when to seek help.* Some weeds may require particular methods or techniques for eradication to be successful. Contact the **WeedWise** program for additional information about a particular weed or management practice.

⊙ *Don't spread knotweed.* Properly dispose of plant material. Don't compost knotweed, and ensure that roots stems and rhizomes are prevented from resprouting.

⊙ *Be patient and diligent.* Understand that controlling and preventing the reinfestation of knotweed is a long term process.



Known knotweed locations in Clackamas County
The red dots depict the nearly 7,500 known knotweed locations in Clackamas County.



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Japanese Knotweed
Fallopia japonica

Knotweed



Management



CLACKAMAS COUNTY SOIL AND WATER
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Good dirt. Clean water.

Knotweed



Above: A large Japanese knotweed patch



Clockwise from upper left: Young knotweed shoots in spring, Pale white flowers of knotweed, Large knotweed plant in fall colors, Leaves of Japanese knotweed (left) and Giant knotweed (right).



What is knotweed?

Knotweed is aggressively invading streams and rivers throughout our region. The invasive knotweeds include multiple species specifically Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), Giant knotweed (*F. sachalinensis*), and their hybrid, Bohemian knotweed (*F. x bohemica*).

What does it look like?

Adult knotweed forms dense bamboo-like clumps reaching heights of 8-12 feet at maturity. Unlike bamboo, knotweed canes are fragile and snap under pressure. Knotweed has bright green heart shaped leaves that turn orange to yellow in fall. Knotweed plants produce abundant white flowers in summer before dying back each season and overwintering as underground rhizomes.

Why should I worry about knotweed?

Knotweed is a fast-growing noxious weed that displaces the native vegetation needed by wildlife for food and shelter. Sites invaded by knotweed experience increased soil erosion along streams and rivers. Knotweed also invades around homes, where it can damage concrete, asphalt, and home foundations.

How does knotweed spread?

In our area, knotweed fragments are typically spread by streams and rivers during seasonal flooding, but

people also spread knotweed through garden waste, plant trades, and contaminated equipment.

How do I control knotweed on my property?

Knotweed is a pest that is very difficult to control. It will resprout from small root fragments, which makes cutting and digging generally ineffective. Manual methods can be used for small infestations, but requires frequent follow-up to achieve control. Be sure to properly dispose of cut stems, and rhizomes where they will not reroot.

Due to the aggressive growth of knotweed, herbicides are generally needed to achieve lasting control. Choose herbicide products approved for use around water that contain glyphosate or imazapyr. These herbicides have been shown to be the most effective for controlling knotweed in our area.

The timing of the herbicide treatment is critical to successful knotweed control. Target plants *only* in late summer or early fall. To avoid spraying overhead cut knotweed stems in late spring, and spray the regrowth in fall. Be sure to properly dispose of cut stems so they will not reroot.

Before beginning an herbicide regime, contact the **WeedWise** Program or consult the *Pacific Northwest Weed Management Handbook* (<http://pnwhandbooks.org/weed/>) for the most up-to-date herbicide recommendations.

Target knotweed control efforts in late August-October, as plants begin to die back to below ground roots and rhizomes.



Samuel Leminger, Clackamas SWCD

REPORT KNOTWEED!

Have you noticed invasive *knotweed* in your area? Report your sightings to the District's **WeedWise** program, or submit them online at oregoninvasiveshotline.org.



Oregon Invasive Species Online Hotline



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