

Noxious Weed

Giant Hogweed is a "Noxious Weed" listed under the BC Weed Control Act. Some municipalities also have bylaws that require the control of, or prohibit the sale of Noxious Weeds.

This means that property owners and government agencies are mandated by law to control these species that occur on their property or jurisdiction.

How to Control



**Use extreme caution.
Do not handle this plant
without proper protection**

For small plants, use loppers or a shovel to "chop" the main root 5-15 cm below the soil surface.

For large and mature plants, clip and bag the flowerheads for disposal.

Due to the toxic properties of this plant, chemical options may also be needed to minimize exposure to the plant.

For details, resources, and control recommendations, please visit:

www.fviss.ca/invasive-plant/giant-hogweed



More Info

Report Invasive Species

1) Report to the Province:



Report Invasives BC App
Invasive.Plants@gov.bc.ca
These reports go directly to the Province for mapping

2) Report Locally:



iNaturalist App
Join other community scientists and add your photos and sightings

Contact Us



Fraser Valley Invasive Species Society

778-548-3847

info@fviss.ca

www.fviss.ca

  @FraserValleyInvasives

INVASIVE PLANT



GIANT HOGWEED

Heracleum mantegazzianum

FVISS



Giant Hogweed is an invasive species, introduced to North America as an ornamental plant.

This plant has an **extremely toxic sap** sap, which can cause serious, painful, and long lasting, **burns, blisters, scarring**, and even blindness.

Giant Hogweed is TOXIC!
Cover and protect yourself when interacting with this plant!



eastlothiancourier.com



bristolpost.co.uk

Giant Hogweed:

- has a **toxic sap** that is activated by sunlight/UV-light; symptoms can develop 24-72 hours after exposure
- spreads very quickly and densely; a single plant can produce **up to 120,000 seeds**
- has shallow roots that do not hold soil, increasing streambank **erosion risk** and impacting fish and wildlife habitat

How to Identify

LEAVES



Ohio State University Extension

Very large, up to 1.5 - 3 m wide. Deeply toothed and sharply angled edges.

STEMS



Paul Kirtley, paulkirtley.co.uk

Extremely rigid.
Reddish-purple blotching.
Stiff hairs.

FLOWERS



University of Illinois Extension

Large umbrella-shaped flowerhead, 1 - 1.5 m wide.
Flowers July-August.

Giant Hogweed take up to 8 years to flower

All plant parts contain the TOXIC UV light-activated sap!

Look-alike



P.Dziuk, via Minnesota Wildflowers

Native plant - Cow Parsnip
(*Heracleum maximum*)

- Smaller and shorter, only up to 2.5 m tall
- Leaves are more like maple leaves, not deeply toothed
- Stems can fade from green to purple, but no blotches
- Softly hairy, no stiff hairs
- Flowerheads are smaller with a flatter top



5 m (16 ft) tall

Cowlitz County, Washington