

Noxious Weed

Knotweeds are "Noxious Weeds" 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

Knotweeds are incredibly difficult to control due to its extensive and massive root system, and its ability to regrow from plant fragments.

Do Not Mow Knotweed!

Mowing or cutting can stimulate dormant buds, causing the plant to grow back **more aggressively**, the roots to **extend deeper and further**, and cause the infestation to **become larger**.

Due to the massive root biomass below ground, chemical options are often needed to avoid stimulating regrowth, employing large scale excavation, or spreading plant fragments.

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

www.fviss.ca/invasive-plant/knotweed-species



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

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INVASIVE PLANT

KNOTWEED

Japanese, Giant, and Bohemian

Reynoutria/Fallopia japonica, sachalinensis, x bohemica

Wikimedia Commons



Knotweeds are invasive species in North America. There are four species of invasive knotweeds in the Fraser Valley.

- It can grow **10 cm per day** - a small 1 cm piece can grow a whole new plant
- It has a root system can be up to **3 m deep** and **20 m across**
- Cutting or mowing will cause it to grow back **more aggressively**



Knotweeds cause serious & lasting harm to our Fraser Valley ecosystems:

- It **takes over** habitat, and crowds out our native plants and animals
- It causes **infrastructure damage** as the plant can push through concrete and asphalt
- It causes **erosion** as the roots do not hold soil along streams and creeks, increasing flood risk
- It creates **fire risk** when the stems die back and dry out every winter

How to Identify

STEMS



Green with reddish-brown spots. Stems are segmented and **hollow**; Often confused for bamboo

LEAVES



Deep green; Heart to spade-shaped; Alternating, leaves from a **zig-zag** orange-red branch

FLOWERS



Small, white plumes of flowers grow **from the stem** between the leaves. Flowers from late-July to early-Oct.

SPRING



SUMMER



Knotweeds are **perennial plants**, meaning most of its biomass is actually **below-ground**

The above-ground stems die back in the fall, stays dormant over the winter, and regrows every spring, reaching up to **2 m tall** by summer.

FALL



WINTER

