



Japanese Knotweed



Japanese Knotweed is a woody perennial that can grow up to 11 feet tall and was originally introduced to the United States in the 1800's as an ornamental border planting and to stabilize stream banks. It was quickly discovered that this plant could easily spread.

Japanese Knotweed is a very dense plant with hollow stems and red or purple nodes where leaves attach. The leaves can be up to 6 inches long and heart shaped. The flowers form in finger like clusters in late summer and are very aromatic.



Japanese Knotweed thrives because of its ability to spread through underground rhizomes. The stands can remain even after several removal attempts and are very resistant to common herbicides. Japanese Knotweed thrives in wet conditions and is prevalent along stream banks. It crowds out native species and provides little erosion control.

When trying to control Japanese Knotweed, removal of the rhizome system is critical. This plant must be controlled in two phases, and takes at least two growing seasons and follow up herbicide treatment for successful removal.

