

When Controlling Knotweed...



REMEMBER:

- ◆ A disposal plan for all knotweed material is essential to prevent future infestations. This might include burning the material, burying it more than 6 ft deep, or letting it dry out and die completely. **Please check state and local burn ordinances for your municipality before burning Knotweed.**
- ◆ Re-vegetation after treatment is **essential**, as bare ground allows for re-invasion of Knotweed or other invasive plants. Rapid-growing, native trees and shrubs should be selected for re-vegetating Knotweed control sites.
- ◆ If applying herbicide, or injecting target plants with products containing glyphosate, a broad-spectrum systemic herbicide is recommended, as it prevents drift to non-targeted plants and eliminates the need for plant disposal. Always follow the manufacturer's directions when using herbicide, or contact a NYS Certified Pesticide Applicator. For questions regarding application methods or permitting, please contact the Pesticide Control Specialist at New York State DEC Region 4 Office at 518-357-2045.
- ◆ Regardless of your method of attack, eradicating knotweed is typically a multi-year process. Be prepared to make several follow-up visits and **Be persistent — It can be done!**

Where to Find Out More

Japanese Knotweed on the Web

www.nyis.info/invasive_species/japanese-knotweed
www.invasive.org/browse/subinfo.cfm?sub=19655
www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/plants/knotweed.shtml
www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/isprohibitedplants2.pdf
www.catskillinvasives.com/
www.dcsxcd.invasive%20species%20frame.htm

NYS Certified Pesticide Applicators

www.dec.ny.gov/nyspad/?0

NYS Open Burning Regulations

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/58519.html>

NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
Division of Air Resources: (518) 402-8403

Always check with your local town/village authorities to find out if a burn permit is required.



Catskill Streams
Buffer Initiative
At the Root of Streamside Protection

44 West Street, Suite 1
Walton, NY 13856
Phone: (607) 865-5223
www.DCSWCD.org



DELAWARE COUNTY
SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

JAPANESE KNOTWEED



Without prompt and vigorous action,
knotweed will overtake riverbanks,
displace native habitat, and damage
the scenic and recreational quality
of our Catskill Streams.

Why Worry About Knotweed?

In just the last ten to twenty years, Japanese Knotweed has entrenched itself along the banks of many Catskill streams. It grows extremely fast, often crowding out native vegetation and

altering the landscape. It spreads mainly through seed dispersal and its extensive root system but new colonies can also sprout from plant fragments as small as 1/2 inch.

Dispersal of seeds and fragments can occur along streams, through untreated fill and soil movement, and on people, boats, and cars.

The Problems with Knotweed

- The shallow root system characteristic of knotweed is ineffective at controlling streambank erosion
- Knotweed grows in dense stands which restrict access to local waterways
- Dead plant material may alter food webs and impact food supplies throughout the ecosystem
- Native plants are often outcompeted by rapidly expanding knotweed colonies

Identifying Knotweed

Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) may also be referred to as 'Japanese bamboo' as its stems closely resemble those of bamboo. Leaves grow in an



Early Knotweed sprouts during Spring

alternating pattern and average 6" in length and 3-4" in width; they are heart-shaped to somewhat triangular. The plants may grow 10 ft in height and sprout early, and quickly, dwarfing surrounding plants. Colonies are dense and thrive in areas open to light, including streambanks.

In August, clusters of small, white flowers bloom, which turn to buckwheat-like seeds by early October. Upon cold weather growth ceases, leaves and seeds are shed, and the stems take on an auburn or rusty hue.



Knotweed during winter months



Summer flowers

What Can I Do?

Do's and Do *Knots* of Knotweed Management

- **Do** learn to identify Japanese Knotweed.
- **Do *Knot*** throw Knotweed cuttings into a stream where it can be carried to other locations or throw it in the compost where it can grow a new stand!
- **Do** secure all cuttings off the ground. Allow to dry completely (keep off the ground while drying) and then burn with crowns in the center to ensure thorough combustion.
- **Do *Knot*** relocate soil or accept fill from contractors that may carry Knotweed fragments.
- **Do** accept only Knotweed-free fill.
- **Do *Knot*** transport Knotweed fragments or seeds on clothing or equipment.
- **Do** carefully remove all Knotweed fragments and seeds before moving to another location.
- **Do *Knot*** plant Knotweed in new areas for landscaping or screening.
- **Do** plant native shrubs and trees to cover bare ground after control of Knotweed.



Erosion of streambank colonized by Japanese Knotweed