

Japanese Knotweed

Fallopia japonica

Identification: These shrubby plants form dense patches in fields and along streambanks. Leaves are large and broad with pointed tips (called “drip tips”). Clusters of very small white flowers emerge in the summer.

KEY TRAIT: Stems are smooth on the outside and hollow on the inside, often resembling bamboo. The stem swells where it meets branches.



Impact: Japanese knotweed is one of the most persistent invasives, forming huge underground rhizomes and patches that eventually crowd out all nearby plants. These plants can even sprout through asphalt and foundations, causing damage to infrastructure.

Removal: Rhizomes can store large resources, so all removal methods must be repeated for several years.

- cut or pull stalks two or three times a year, removing as much rhizome as possible; carefully dispose of plant material by drying or burning, since even very small fragments can sprout into new plants



Replacement:

Goatsbeard

Ocean Spray

Aruncus dioicus

Holodiscus discolor