



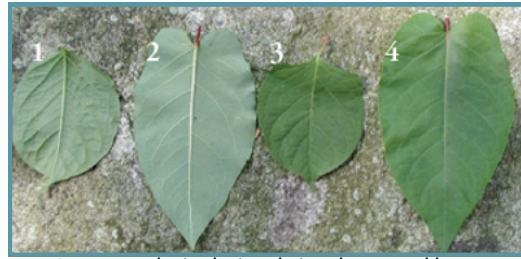
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Report knotweed patches to KISMA



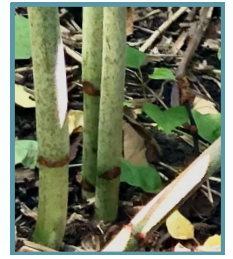
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Michigan Technological University
College of Forest Resources
and Environmental Science

Invasive Knotweeds are large, aggressive plants that form dense stands and damage infrastructure (e.g., foundations, septic fields) and ecosystems.

MANUAL KNOTWEED CONTROL IN 5 SIMPLE STEPS



Japanese aka itadori and giant knotweed leaves
(underside and top)



stems of knotweed

COVER

CUT/PULL

REPEAT

MONITOR

RESTORE

Supplies

- Carpets* or tarps
- Gloves
- Loppers

*KISMA can provide carpet

Why carpets/tarps are used for covering?

- smother the plants, preventing photosynthesis
- decrease the area of knotweed to manage
- provide a surface to place cut stems to dry, preventing the spread of the plant and resprouting of the cut stems



Caution: small fragments of plant left on soil can form new plants

1 COVER DENSE KNOTWEED AREAS

Place covering only on densest areas of knotweed. This helps to preserve native plants, which will be needed to prevent reinfestation. Manually remove knotweed from areas with mixture of native plants and knotweed.

Tip: lay covering on top of the knotweed and trample to smash the stems underneath.



only cover densest areas--surrounding area will have sparse knotweed that needs to be pulled, but need to encourage encroachment of native, replacement plants



knotweed cut and piled on tarp to keep isolated from soil so it cannot root and form new plant

2 CUT/PULL KNOTWEED GROWING AROUND COVERING AND PLACE ON TOP TO DRY

Tip: don't move carpet/tarp to manage the covered knotweed because that is being smothered. You just need to pull all stems that grow in the uncovered areas.

3 REPEAT EVERY 2-3 WEEKS DURING THE GROWING SEASON AND EACH YEAR UNTIL **NO** STEMS ARE COMING UP

Each spring, dump off the old, dried knotweed from the carpet/tarp onto soil next to or under the covering and put it back in place to start the new piles.

This process may take several years depending on the age of the infestation but gets easier each year.



rhizome/roots of knotweed

4 MONITOR EVEN AFTER APPARENT ERADICATION AND REMOVE RESPROUTS IMMEDIATELY

New growth may appear months or years after you think you have gotten it all. If left, small shoots will rapidly become a new infestation.



5

RESTORE WITH NATIVE VEGETATION

After a couple years, you can decrease how much area you have to cover as the amount of knotweed drops, and you can begin planting your desired species.

Tip: Trees and shrubs are the best natives because they will shade out future knotweed, which are shade intolerant.

Knotweed Management Case Study: Then and Now

We've repeatedly cut and pulled knotweed from this site every 2-3 weeks through the growing season since 2017. The diversity of vegetation has increased dramatically, including native ferns, virginia creeper, goldenrods, milkweeds and many planted trees.

