



JAPANESE KNOTWEED

An invasive and destructive weed in
Canosia Township

KNOTWEED BASICS

- The clusters of white flowers can be deceiving, but knotweeds are considered an invasive plant that can wreak havoc if left unchecked. The 9-foot tall bamboo-like stalks quickly form dense, leafy thickets. Their roots can spread up to 6-feet deep and 65-feet wide, with new plants sprouting from nodes along the roots.
- Stems are green with reddish nodes, become tough and woody with age, and appear reddish-brown in the winter. New shoots emerge in the spring and leaves drop in the fall. The white flowers typically bloom in August or September.
- According to the MN Dept. of Agriculture, knotweeds can displace native vegetation, degrade habitat for fish and wildlife and facilitate erosion and flooding. They can even crack open pavement as the new plants bust through.

KNOTWEED ELIMINATION

- Knotweeds are so tough they can actually grow through pavement and withstand fire, so it is not an easy task to eradicate a population. Often people mistakenly try to chop or mow them down; unfortunately, this only invigorates growth. New colonies can develop from very small stem or root fragments. Do not transfer soil that may contain knotweed fragments to water or un-infested soil.
- The most effective mode of elimination is through repeated herbicide treatment by certified contractors. The chemicals are applied to both the leaves and stems which then transfer the active ingredients to the root system. This process typically takes 3-5 years for full effectiveness. If you use herbicide, make sure to pay special attention to lakeshore restrictions. Remember: it is best to consult a licensed provider to set up an elimination program.



**NOXIOUS
WEED
NOTICE!**

