

A Decision Guide to Japanese Knotweed Treatment & Disposal



KEY RULES WHEN DEALING WITH JAPENSE KNOTWEED



- Cutting alone can stimulate denser or more vigorous regrowth.
- Do **NOT** compost viable plant material or place in yard waste.
- Do **NOT** dump at another location, including natural areas.
- Do **NOT** move soil that may contain roots (rhizomes).
- **Keep contained** to prevent spread. Dispose on site when possible.

Confirm identification

before handling:

<https://canva.link/2x2odvtgjk9kupa>

1.

ASSESSMENT

NO

Is the infestation small
(15 plants or
less)?

YES

Medium to
large, dense
stand, near
water or
infrastructure

Small, new, isolated
patch (≤ 15 plants)

Contact a professional for
coordinated treatment and a
long-term management plan.

For a list of vegetation
management contractors
that treat invasive species
in Sudbury, visit:

<https://junctioncreek.com/restoration/invasive-species-removal/japanese-knotweed/>

Manual treatment is possible,
but will still require
consistent, multi-year
treatment and monitoring.

2.

TREATMENT

Can you carryout
treatment
yourself?

NO

YES

- Dig out using a shovel or similar tool.
- Remove the entire root system.
- Sift through the soil to find and remove remaining roots.
- Repeat 2–3 times during the growing season.

**Please follow
Best Management Practices**

3.

DISPOSAL

Can you manage
disposal on site?

NO

YES

Too large, risky,
or impractical

- If possible, solarize in sealed black bags in direct sunlight for approximately 1-3 weeks.
- Special disposal may be available. For more information, contact your municipality.

- Solarize in sealed black bags in direct sunlight for approximately 1-3 weeks, until dead.
- **Once dead** (brown, brittle, and non-growing), compost, burn (only dried stems without seeds), or allow to break down naturally over time.

**Follow-up monitoring and
treatment for at least 5 years**

Learn more:

junctioncreek.com/restoration/invasive-species-removal/japanese-knotweed/

