

Knotweed

Control Methods

No matter which method you choose...

Be thorough and consistent.
Be patient with results.
Timing is crucial.

Control Method	What to do	Timing	For how long	How it works	Effectiveness	Be sure to...
Manual Control Methods						
Digging	Dig up and remove as much root and root fragments as possible.	Every August.	5-7 years.	The plant is prevented from rooting, sprouting, and storing energy.	Variable.	Carefully dry roots or bag and dispose of them in a garbage or landfill. Stems can be crushed before or after drying. DO NOT compost the roots or allow them to enter waterways.
Cutting	Cut stems close to the ground.	Every week between April and August, and then biweekly until the first frost.	7-10 years.	The plant cannot get enough energy from the sun and starves.	Variable.	Carefully dry stems or dispose of them in a garbage or landfill. Stems can be crushed before or after drying. DO NOT compost the stems or allow them to enter waterways.
Covering	Cover loosely with landscape or weed control fabric 20 feet beyond the outer stems. Secure the covering with heavy rocks or cement blocks.		3-5 years, until at least 1 year after no growth is observed.	The plant cannot get enough energy from the sun and starves.	Variable.	Make sure there are no gaps. Periodically stamp down plants growing underneath and check the perimeter for new sprouts.
Chemical Control Methods						
Foliar Application - Glyphosate	Spray the plant with 2%-5% solution according to label instructions.	Once annually between August and October. Later chemical applications are more effective.	At least 3 years.	The chemical moves through the plant's system to the roots and prevents it from storing sugar, starving the plant.	90% die back in the first year.	Read and follow label instructions. DO NOT use more than the recommended amount.
Foliar Application - Imazapyr	Spray the plant with 1% solution according to label instructions.	Once annually between August and October. Later chemical applications are more effective.	At least 3 years.	The chemical moves through the plant's system to the roots and leaf tips and prevents it from storing sugar, starving the plant.	95% die back in the first year.	Read and follow label instructions. DO NOT use more than the recommended amount.
Stem Injection	Inject 3mL of 100% (undiluted) glyphosate solution between first and second, or between second and third nodes of plant.	Once annually between August and October. Later chemical applications are more effective. After first year, another method will need to be used.	At least 3 years.	The chemical moves through the plant's system to the roots and prevents it from storing sugar, starving the plant.	95% die back in the first year.	Read and follow label instructions. DO NOT use more than the recommended amount.
Wick Wipe	Wipe all plant parts with 33%-50% glyphosate solution. Can use applicator sponge or cotton gloves worn over latex or unlined nitrile gloves.	Once annually between August and October. Later chemical applications are more effective. After first year, another method will need to be used.	At least 3 years.	The chemical moves through the plant's system to the roots and prevents it from storing sugar, starving the plant.	90%-95% die back in the first year.	Read and follow label instructions. DO NOT use more than the recommended amount.

Note: The active ingredients triclopyr and aminopyralid have been approved for use on knotweed, but are less effective than glyphosate and imazapyr for knotweed control.

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