

Why "Knot in Hyde Park"?

KiHP is volunteer effort committed to containing the spread of Japanese Knotweed. We want to bring the issue out into the open and manage it together as a community. Act Early and Persist!

Go to our website at hydeparkvt.com/knot-in-hyde-park/ for information on why Knotweed is a problem: It's extremely invasive, extremely hard to get rid of once established; and crowds out all native flora leaving a monoculture of knotweed.

What should I know about Knotweed and its spread?

Japanese Knotweed (KW) came to the US from Asia in the late 1800s. It can be found in 42 states and 8 Canadian Provinces.

The State of Vermont designates KW as a "Class B Noxious Weed" and accordingly its sale, movement, or distribution is prohibited by the Agency of Ag. Food & Markets.

KW stalks grow up from a network of spreading rhizomes -- roots that grow horizontally underground. A small piece of rhizome can generate a new plant. And any of the nodes on a stalk, if cut and left in contact with the soil, can sprout new rhizomes and create a new plant. **Hence the need to handle plant material with great care!**

Like most invasive plants, KW is capable of thriving and spreading in a wide range of conditions, in both sun and part shade, and especially along riverbanks, roadsides and other moist disturbed areas.

One of the most common ways to spread KW is through gravel or fill that is contaminated with rhizome plant material. Along rivers the spread happens easily in a flooding event. Along roads you'll notice that many KW stands occur around culverts. And then, of course, there is the problem of people simply taking a plant they dug up from one place and tossing or dumping it someplace else.

What can you do?

- 1. Learn to Identify it.** Visit our website for resources. KW is easy to see in the spring because it is larger and faster-growing than anything else; and easy to see in late summer when it stands 8 to 10 feet tall -- sometimes as high as 15 feet! -- and is covered with attractive cream-colored flowers.
- 2. Take extreme care if you're working with KW.** Never, ever just cut a bit of KW and toss it aside!
- 3. Act Early and Persist.** If you see a small patch of KW let us know and help us deal with it NOW before it becomes established and much more difficult to manage.
- 4. Adopt some Knot.** Think about tackling a KW patch near you. We'll help you figure out the best methods to use, make it one of our Field Sites, and help ensure there's a team dedicated to support the effort.
- 5. Come to a Demonstration Event.** We'll post any events on Front Porch Forum and on the Town's website.
- 6. Sign up for our Annual Newsletter.** Write to us at knotinhydepark@gmail.com.

7. Get Involved. We started this effort in May 2021 and we have now finished our 4th Season. We need your help to sustain the work. Many hands make light work!

8. Stay Connected. Follow us on Instagram [#knotinhydepark](https://www.instagram.com/knotinhydepark).



A Drying Stack is a good way to safely compost KW. Visit our website for more info.

KiHP Future Work

- In 2024 we hired a part-time summer employee to increase our reach. We want to hire someone again in 2025. Do you know someone who might be interested in the job? Get in touch!
- Securing a centralized location to dry plant material that cannot safely be left to dry on site.
- Continuing to explore and develop best practice methods for managing KW spread.



KW in the Spring



In flower



The leaf up close



Canes after Winter



And Spring again



**Together
Let's do something about
Japanese Knotweed**



The best time to deal with Japanese Knotweed is when you first see it before it has a chance to take hold.

Act Early. And Persist.