



# **JAPANESE KNOTWEED** “bamboo bush”

**Renouée du Japon**  
**AN EXTREMELY INVASIVE PLANT**

## **LAKE HUGHES - CONTROL MEASURES**

**The goal is to control & prevent the spread of Japanese Knotweed**

### **FOR SMALLER POPULATIONS** SINGLE SHOOTS AND SMALLER PLANTS

Digging young plants including rhizomes/roots can help eradicate new or early infestations – **it is essential to remove all the root system** which makes up two thirds of the plant - the plant will quickly re-sprout when pulled or dug if the roots are not completely removed.

### **FOR LARGER POPULATIONS**

- **CUT THE STEMS FLUSH WITH THE GROUND USING PRUNERS**  
Avoid disturbing the roots as this could stimulate growth.
- **PLACE CUTTINGS IN BAGS – SEND TO LANDFILL IN THE GARBAGE**  
*(this is authorized by the Municipality of Gore & Mille-Isles)*  
Never compost or put at the edge of the forest (it will come back to life).
- **COVER THE INFESTED AREA WITH DARK COLORED TARPS OR WEEDBARRIER (THIS STEP IS CRUCIAL)**  
Tarp further out than the infestation / weigh down the tarp material with stones or tree trunks – the objective is to smother the root system.
- **MONITOR FOR PLANTS GROWING FROM UNDER THE EDGES OF THE TARP OR THROUGH THE TARP - LEAVE THE TARP IN PLACE FOR UP TO 3 SEASONS**  
Check once a month during the growing season – it is very likely that a cut of the new shoots will be necessary.

**CHEMICAL CONTROL (HERBICIDES) ARE NOT PERMITTED NEAR LAKES**

The LAKE HUGHES JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL MEASURES are based on the Mille-Isles – Japanese Knotweed Protocole which is on the Mille-Isles Municipality website “Town Planning and Environment: Japanese Knotweed”

Other References: Gov of QC “Sentinelle”  
Ontario Invasive Species – Best Management Practices

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## INFO SHEET

**Japanese Knotweed, an extremely aggressive invasive plant has been identified here at Lake Hughes.**

It is growing on many properties, starting at the hill on Ch Lac Hughes and continuing along Horseshoe. Some areas have smaller/new infestations, but several others have very large populations. Of course, it could be elsewhere around the lake.



Broad, green, spade-shaped leaves arranged in an alternating pattern on a reddish zig-zag twig.



### JAPANESE KNOTWEED IDENTIFICATION



New shoot.



The mature stems resemble bamboo and are hollow.



The small whitish flowers are arranged in clusters – blooming in late summer.



The bush can reach 4 m (13 ft) high and the size of the plant can increase by 29% each year.



The roots can reach more than 2 m (6 ½ ft) deep and extend outwards more than 18 m (60 ft).

The **spread** of Japanese Knotweed is by roots, stems and seeds (**mainly roots**). 1 cm of root can generate a new plant.

**Do not try to pull it out** – the roots/rhizomes are very deep and you risk forgetting fragments in the soil.

**CONSULT THE LAKE HUGHES – CONTROL MEASURES**

### WE NEED YOUR HELP TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF JAPANESE KNOTWEED

- LEARN HOW TO IDENTIFY IT– it is most visible in late summer when it is blooming
- NEVER TRANSPLANT IT
- TELL US IF YOU THINK IT IS GROWING ON YOUR PROPERTY
- REPORT A SIGHTING OF IT AROUND THE LAKE
- INFORM THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU OF ITS PRESENCE

### THE LAKE HUGHES PLANT TEAM

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#### REFERENCES:

Municipality of Mille-Isles  
Government of QC “Sentinelle”  
Ontario Invasive Species – Best Management Practices