

*Polygonum bohemicum*

# Bohemian Knotweed

Polygonaceae, the buckwheat family  
Category: CONTROL



## Diagnostic Characteristics

- Classified as hybrid between giant and Japanese knotweed
- Perennial; grows up to 8 feet tall
- Coarse foliage, hollow stems, and creeping roots
- Large, broad, ovate leaves that alternate on the stem; leaf base is square (truncate) to tapered, zig-zag stem (reddish-purple-mottled), swollen nodes, and thin papery sheaths
- Stiff upright male flower clusters

## Background

- Native to Japan, Taiwan, eastern China, and Korea; introduced as ornamental
- Inhabits disturbed moist areas, riparian areas, wetland areas, and rights-of-way
- Reproduces vegetatively from rhizomes, rhizome fragments, stem fragments, and seed
- Forms dense colonies

Photo Credit:

King County Washington, Noxious Weed Program

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