

PUBLIC NOTICE

Invasive Species Removal in Mitchell

June 1, 2023

Mitchell ON - The Municipality of West Perth and Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) are continuing the annual treatment of the invasive species Japanese Knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*) along the banks of the Thames River in Mitchell. This includes the use of pesticides to treat and kill patches of the plant.

Work on the areas, outlined in these [maps](#), is set to occur between June 1st and 16th 2023. We ask the public to avoid the areas while the work is completed. There will be signs posted on site describing what products are being used. This work is part of a 10-year program that began in 2019 to remove this invasive species.

Japanese Knotweed is an aggressive semi-woody perennial plant that is native to eastern Asia. In the 1800's it was introduced to North America as an ornamental species. "Japanese Knotweed is especially persistent due to its vigorous root system, which can spread nearly 10 metres from the parent stem and grow through concrete and asphalt," said Jay Ebel, Forestry Technician at the UTRCA. "This invader is very persistent and once it becomes established, is incredibly difficult to control."

More information on West Perth and UTRCA's partnership on this project can be found [here](#).

More information on Japanese Knotweed can be found on the Ontario's Invading Species Awareness Program website [here](#).

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