

# A cost effective solution for the remediation of Japanese Knotweed

**MUSKETEERS**  
**GROUP LTD**

METHODS APPROVED BY EA, SEPA AND EHS.

## What is Japanese Knotweed?

Japanese Knotweed was introduced in the UK during the Victorian period as an ornamental plant. Due to its propensity to develop quickly its undergrowth (i.e. the rhizomes) were used as a bank stabilizer along mainly the railway infrastructure.

Since there are no natural predators in the UK and due to its fast growth, Japanese Knotweed has quickly become a threat to our natural environment. It is commonly found on Brownfield sites as well as along communication infrastructures such as railways, roadways and canals/ivers.

## What are some of the problems associated with Japanese Knotweed?

- Shades out native plants and creates a monoculture.
- Consequently provides poor ecological conditions for insects, birds and small animals.
- Strong enough to penetrate asphalt and take advantage of small cracks.

## What does the law say?

- **The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981**— it is an offence to plant or otherwise cause the species to grow in the wild. Breaching the WCA 1981 could result in criminal prosecution.
- **The Environmental Protection Act 1990** — Japanese Knotweed is classed as 'controlled waste' and as such any material contaminated with Japanese Knotweed must follow the duty of care and be disposed of adequately. Breaching the EPA 1990 could lead to unlimited fines.

The methods developed by the Musketeers Group Ltd are proven to reduce by 99% the volume of waste sent off site and CO<sub>2</sub> exhaustion when compared to the classical 'dig & dump' method.

Japanese Knotweed  
(*Polygonum Cuspidatum*)

You value your land, we value our customers

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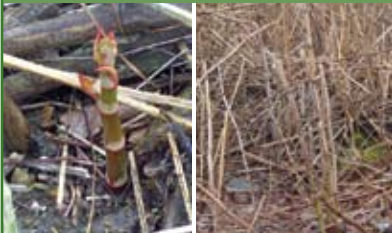


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# Identification of Japanese Knotweed - SITE CHECKLIST

	FEATURES	OBSERVATIONS
<b>RHIZOME</b> 	<p>Snaps easily (a root would generally bend)</p> <p>In cross section: the core is rich orange surrounded by yellowish colour</p> <p>In cross section: when recently established it is white</p> <p>Outside colour is dark with a leathery bark</p> <p>In early spring buds are visible at nodes</p>	
<b>CROWN</b> 	<p>Located at the base of the stems</p> <p>Can range in size depending on the maturity of the plant</p> <p>Can generate sprouting new red buds</p>	
<b>STEM</b> 	<p>Hollow like bamboo</p> <p>New growth (in spring) are purple/red</p> <p>As summer approaches it becomes green and then darker in autumn - reaching up to 3m tall</p> <p>In winter, dark and woody. Snaps easily</p> <p>Dry, dead stem of knotweed at the end of the dormant season (March)</p>	
<b>LEAVES</b> 	<p>New growth (in spring) are curled up and purple-red</p> <p>To become flattened and green as the knotweed develop further</p> <p>During mid to late autumn, leaves darken and fall</p>	
<b>FLOWERS</b> 	<p>Appear late summer/autumn</p> <p>3mm long with cream/white flowers</p> <p>Form clusters</p>	
<b>HABITAT</b>	<p>Any but commonly found on Brownfield sites as well as along communication infrastructures such as railways, roadways and canals/ivers.</p>	
<p>FREE identification and FREE initial site visit from <a href="http://www.musketeers-group.com">www.musketeers-group.com</a></p>		

## Do you know about Land Remediation Tax Relief?

Up to 150% of the costs of qualifying remediation works could be set against your profits.

Musketeers Group Ltd is managed by a group of highly focused individuals operating an honest and ethical company in the field of Japanese Knotweed remediation and other invasive weeds.

### Our achievements include the following:

- First company in the UK to have its cost-effective methods reviewed against the new code of Practice and approved by the EA
- First company in the UK to have its cost-effective methods reviewed and approved by SEPA
- First company in the UK to have its cost-effective methods reviewed and approved by EHS