



## CLDC practical training for the control of Japanese Knotweed

**Trainers:** Nicholas Head, Knotweed Ireland Services and Dr Fran Giaquinto CEnv MCIEEM

**Nicholas Head**, trading as Knotweed Ireland Services, is an invasive species contractor with a difference. By closely recording what happens to Japanese knotweed when it is treated with herbicide, he has developed a method that minimises the dose required, maximises its effectiveness, minimises the harm it causes to the environment, and ensures safety for the operator. He is widely sought after across Ireland, working for Councils, HSE Estates, private landowners, and community groups. He has lived in East Clare for the last 17 years and has run Knotweed Ireland Services for 12 years.

**Fran Giaquinto** is an ecologist who has specialised in invasive species management for the last 12 years. She was awarded Chartered Environmentalist status in January 2020 in recognition of her approach to clearing giant hogweed without the use of herbicides. She is a full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecological and Environmental Management. She works closely with Nicholas Head, developing methods of invasive species control that minimise environmental harm. She has lived in East Clare since 2006.

### **Who this programme is for:**

This half day training is for private landowners and community members who live in or near Connolly, Doolin, Lisdoonvarna, Miltown Malbay, and Mountshannon.

### **Training outcomes:**

By the end of this training you will:

- Know how to identify Japanese knotweed, and to know the difference between Japanese knotweed and Himalayan knotweed.
- Know how to assess the severity of an infestation and to work out the best method of control.
- Understand what biosecurity means and how to avoid dispersal of Japanese knotweed and other invasive species.
- Understand legislation that you must comply with.
- Know how to use herbicide safely without causing harm to yourself and the environment.

**Time:** 10 am to 3 pm

**Manual:** All participants will receive a training manual based on the training which you can use for future reference.

**Dates:**

<b>Connolly</b>	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July
<b>Doolin</b>	TBC
<b>Lisdoonvarna</b>	TBC
<b>Miltown Malbay</b>	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July
<b>Mountshannon</b>	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July

**Schedule**

<b>Indoor session</b>	
<b>10.00</b>	Welcome and introduction
<b>10.15</b>	Why Japanese knotweed is a problem
	Legislation you must know about and comply with
	How to identify Japanese knotweed
	How to distinguish between Japanese knotweed and Himalayan knotweed
	Methods of control
<b>11.15</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>11.30</b>	Using herbicides
	Understanding systemic herbicides and how they work
	How to use herbicides safely: working out the correct dilution rate; different equipment used; how to maintain equipment.
	Health and Safety
	What is COSHH and SUDS
	Certification to use herbicides
<b>12.30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>13.00</b>	Travel to field site
<b>13.15</b>	Identify Japanese knotweed and Himalayan knotweed
	Assess the severity of the infestation
	Decide on the most appropriate method of control
	PPE and working safely
	Health and Safety
	Herbicide equipment for foliar spraying and stem injection
	Demonstration and practice
	Troubleshooting
<b>15.00</b>	Close

To express an interest in participating in the training or to find out more, please email **Gerry McDonagh**, CLDC at [gmcdonagh@cldc.ie](mailto:gmcdonagh@cldc.ie) or **Fran Giaquinto** at [biodiversitytraining@gmail.com](mailto:biodiversitytraining@gmail.com)



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