



# INVASIVE WEEDS - BACK IN CONTROL

*Release the Value of Your Land*



Invasive non-native species (INNS) regulated by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Schedule 9, include some well-known plant species like Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed and Himalayan Balsam, as well as others.

The 1981 Act has two main implications for land and property owners: Firstly, it is an offence to allow the plants to spread into the wild. There are legal implications and potential fines if the plants spread beyond site boundaries onto neighbouring land.

Secondly, Schedule 9 plants are considered "controlled waste" so soils contaminated by plant matter (e.g. seeds, nodes and rhizomes) must be disposed of at a suitably licenced facility, leading to considerable costs if a large area is infested.

In addition, many INNS such as Japanese Knotweed, Bamboo (and even non-Schedule 9 plants like Buddleja) can exploit cracks and weaknesses in concrete, tarmac and brickwork, causing damage to existing structures and new developments if not controlled effectively. Ignoring an ever-increasing infestation is not an ideal option for home owners and developers.

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*Our clients  
are so pleased  
to hear the  
Japanese  
Knotweed is  
now under  
control on  
this site.*

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*Thank you  
for all the  
fantastic  
work ERS  
has done  
over the last  
few years.  
It's been a  
pleasure to  
coordinate  
control with  
you.*

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ERS' Invasive Weeds services begin with a discussion on desired site outcomes, and a thorough site survey to confirm and assess the extent of the infestation. This is followed by an integrated Weed Management Plan, tailored to the client's timescale and budget plus any regulatory requirements, and outlining the most appropriate control methods. These include:

- In-situ herbicide treatment
- Combined excavation to landfill and herbicide treatment
- Excavation and stockpiling for on-site treatment
- Excavation for on-site burial
- Excavation for removal off-site to landfill
- Screening of rhizome affected soil (Japanese Knotweed only)

We also offer re-vegetation services using native trees and shrubs to restore exposed bare land post-treatment which might look unsightly or potentially be vulnerable to erosion.



ERS' highly experienced in-house team of Invasive Weeds specialists are experienced at controlling a broad range of INNS causing issues across urban and rural Scotland. We work with home owners, land owners, developers and many other stakeholders to identify, assess, manage and remediate land that's infested with invasive weeds. No job is too big or too small, and we are happy to offer advice if you suspect invasive weeds are growing on your site/land.

As Property Care Association members, we can offer a 10 year insurance-backed guarantee for Japanese Knotweed management plans, so you can relax in the knowledge that the infestation has been suitable managed.

If you have concerns about invasive weeds on your site/land, please contact us today to speak to one of our experts.

## *Get in Touch*

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