

## **Controlling Non-native Species in Parksville**

Invasive plant species are concerning to the City of Parksville. Many invasive plant species thrive in our mild climate and can displace our native species. City Council has funded a special noxious weed budget for the control of invasive plants in our community since 2015, primarily focusing on Japanese Knotweed and Giant Hogweed.

Part of our program includes various volunteer groups. Spring must be here as Broombusters are gearing up for another season and are looking for volunteers. Visit <u>broombusters.org/oceanside</u> for details.

The Friends of Foster Park have volunteered many hours over the past several months, working in partnership with the City to control non-native species which are out competing the native species we have planted in the park. As part of the City's program to restore naturalized areas in the wooded trails at Foster Park, the Coastal Invasive Species Committee (Coastal ISC) will apply spot treatments on May 4 and May 5, weather dependent.

Building on the success of treatment in 2020, Costal ISC will also apply spot treatment to some areas with gorse along Highway 19A as shown on the map. As part of the Integrated pest management system, signage will be posted at locations where treatment will occur.

Work continues with the program to contain Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed. If you know of locations of these plants within the City of Parksville, please contact the Coastal ISC regional hotline at 1 844 298-2532.

Working with municipalities, regional districts and First Nations on Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands and the Sunshine Coast, Coastal ISC provides services to manage invasive alien species and raise awareness about the impacts from and management of invasive species. More information at <u>Coastal Invasive Species Committee</u>.

## For more information:

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