Have you seen these two plants?
- Commonly called: Himalayan balsam and Knotweeds
- Potentially takes over gardens and green-spaces
- Accidentally escaped Eurasia
- Annually spreading seeds and growing rhizomes
- Drastically detrimental to native species
- Critically important that you eradicate them and/or call 1-866-44WEEDS

KNOTWEED SPECIES
- Stems of swollen nodes that look like canes of bamboo
- Very persistent regrowth from root and shoot fragments
- Often spreads by creeping, as some species may not have viable seed
- Flowers are small, loose, greenish-white-pink, plume-like leaf axial sprays
- Leaves vary in shapes and sizes so use the leaf key below

KNOTWEED LEAF KEY
- Four Knotweeds of concern: Bohemian, Giant, Himalayan, and Japanese
- All have similar stem and flower types but leaf shape differs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bohemian Knotweed</th>
<th>Giant Knotweed</th>
<th>Himalayan Knotweed</th>
<th>Japanese Knotweed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-30 cm long 2/3 as wide</td>
<td>20-40 cm long 2/3 as wide</td>
<td>20 cm long 1/2 as wide</td>
<td>3-10 cm long 2/3 as wide</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HIMALAYAN BALSAM
- Also known as Policeman’s Helmet
- Grooved Stem is pink-red to green and bamboo-like
- Purple to pink orchid or slipper-like flowers
- Leaves alternate with serrated edges and a reddish midrib
- Seeds spread from exploding seed pods up to 100 meters

Potential Impacts to Environment
- Spreads Seeds and rhizomes into delicate ecosystems
- Forms thick impenetrable barriers that block access to habitat, food and water
- Draws bees away from native flowers
- Displaces native vegetation and wildlife
- Grows unchecked by natural predators
- Infests areas that are difficult, expensive and time consuming to restore
- Erodes stream banks by out-competing deep-rooted plants.

What should I do with my Himalayan balsam or Knotweed?
- Remove stem and roots. Knotweed can resprout from the smallest root fragment
- Throw it in a landfill or burn it. Never give as a gift or compost
- Don’t show people it’s ok to grow invasive plants. Garden by example
- Replace it with a native bee and butterfly attractant. Contact garden centres for tips
- For more information or to report invasive plants please call