



Photo: Benton SWCD  
5452747



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\*\*\*\*\*NOXIOUS WEED ALERT\*\*\*\*\*

# Giant Hogweed

Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) is a biennial or short lived perennial in the family Apiaceae. Native to Asia, giant hogweed was brought to North America as an ornamental. It can grow to 15' tall and produces large, showy flower clusters. Numerous natives are often misidentified as giant hogweed.

Giant Hogweed is a "T" and "A" listed noxious weed in Oregon and is targeted for immediate eradication.

## Why is it a problem?

Giant hogweed can pose extreme health risks to those who come in contact with the plant. The sap from within causes severe rash and burning and also heightens sensitivity to UV radiation. Even the smoke from burning hogweed can cause blistering and permanent scarring. A single plant can produce up to 50,000 seeds that can persist in soil for up to 10 years. Hogweed germinates in fall/winter when competition is low, making it an exceptional invader of moist habitats.

## What Can You Do?

First, CALL YOUR LOCAL SWCD or WEED CONTROL DISTRICT for positive identification. Distribution of giant hogweed is limited in Oregon. Multiple years of manual removal can be effective if the site is recently infested. DO NOT TOUCH the plant without impermeable gloves and wear

protective clothing. DO NOT BURN giant hogweed as you could expose yourself and others to the toxic smoke.

Chemical treatments may be required for larger infestations and can be quite effective when timed properly. Please consult with your local SWCD or Noxious Weeds Dept. for guidance and always follow label directions. Multiple years of treatment may be required to achieve eradication.

The Tillamook County Soil & Water Conservation District, as the agent for Tillamook County Weed Control District, is asking for your help in identifying populations of giant hogweed in Tillamook County.

As they are identified and confirmed, we can offer technical assistance to landowners with infestations. This may include treatment guidance, survey work and/or treatment assistance. All infestations will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

## How Do I Report Giant Hogweed?

Please call the Tillamook SWCD at: (503) 842-2848 ext: 103

-or-

Report Online at:

<https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/>



Deeply incised leaves set hogweed apart from the native cow parsnip. (Photo: Oregon Dept. of Ag)



This Giant Hogweed leaf spans nearly 6 feet! (Photo: Shannon Brubaker)