

General: Perennial that reaches 8'-15'. Takes 2-4 years to flower, sometimes dying after flowering.



Photo by Roland Mattheo

Form: 1st to 4th year: Basal



Mature form: Single leafy stalk that reaches 8-15' tall.

Giant Hogweed

Heracleum mantegazzianum

WPGS: 242 A Non-native Plant

Caution: Stems and leaves are phytotoxic which can cause skin blisters upon contact followed by exposure to the sun.

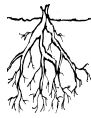


Flower: White umbel up to 18" wide

Photo by King County Agricultural Services Weed Control Program

Management Strategies

- Eradication required by law (Class A)
 - Always remove
 - Thickened roots: Remove all parts
 - Primary spread: Prolific seed producer
- Note: Plant dies as seeds ripen. Flower forms in 2nd-4th year, allow to flower but not ripen any seeds, then remove. Wear protective gear to prevent contact with juices which can cause severe skin blisters.



Check with parks department or school district for proper disposal.

Native Look-alike

Cow Parsnip, *Heracleum lanatum*, has similar leaves which are also phytotoxic, but remains much smaller, rarely reaching 6' tall, and is perennial.



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White

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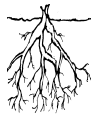


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