**Giant Hogweed**

*Heracleum mantegazzianum*

**A Non-native Plant**

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

**Form:** 1st to 4th year: Basal

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

**Flower:** White umbel up to 18” wide

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

**Management Strategies**
- Eradication required by law (Class A)
- Always remove
- Thicken 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.
- 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.

**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.

**WPGS:** 242

Check with parks department or school district for proper disposal.

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