



Excavation Process & Methodology for Working Within Areas of Japanese Knotweed

SIR ROBERT MCALPINE LTD

**BELLE VUE CO-OP ACADEMY, HYDE ROAD, BELLE
VUE, MANCHESTER, M12 5AL**

JAPANESE KNOTWEED AND YOUR OBLIGATIONS

This site had been identified as containing Japanese knotweed. Japanese knotweed needs to be handled in a responsible manner to protect the environment, be socially responsible and prevent property risk.

Any works conducted to control or eradicate this invasive weed should be completed in accordance with the Environment Agency 'Treatment and disposal of invasive non-native plants: RPS 178 (Nov 2016)' and 'Property Care Association's 'Code of Practice for the Management of Japanese Knotweed [April 2018]'.

The spread of Japanese knotweed is governed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 / Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985. Part I (Wildlife – Miscellaneous), Section 14, Clause 2 of the Act states: ... if any person plants or otherwise causes to grow in the wild any plant which is included in Part II of Schedule 9, he shall be guilty of an offence. Schedule 9 (animals and plants to which section 14 applies), Part II (Plants) lists Japanese knotweed.

The plant is not cited under any legislation that requires its presence to be notified to either DEFRA (Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs) or local planning authorities, and neither is it listed under The Weeds Act of 1959.

Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, Duty of Care Regulations 1991, Japanese knotweed material and those material contaminated with Japanese knotweed must be removed to a licensed landfill site for disposal, accompanied by appropriate Waste Transfer documentation.

A PLAN OF ACTION

The Environment Agency advocate the use of 'Knotweed Management Plans' (KMP) wherever possible on development sites where Japanese knotweed is present. Our KMP's are drafted in accordance with the 'Property Care Association's 'Code of Practice for the Management of Japanese Knotweed [April 2018]'.

The KMP records Remedial Activities, Objectives and Evaluations. It stores recordable documents such as: Photos, Pesticide Application Records (PAR), Waste Transfer Notes (WTN) and Landfill Weighbridge Tickets (WBT).

An active or completed KMP should be included with a development sites Operation and Maintenance manual.

DESCRIPTION OF MANAGEMENT PLAN

The management plan should be implemented to control the spread of Japanese knotweed on and out from the site. The plan details the problem and the remedial and management works implemented.

The Plan should be overseen by the Site Manager, and in his absence, his deputy. The Plan, its appendices and revisions shall be kept for future site owners.

The Management Plan should be read in conjunction with the Property Care Association's 'Code of Practice for the Management of Japanese Knotweed [April 2018]' and Environment Agency 'Treatment and disposal of invasive non-native plants: RPS 178 (Nov 2016)'.

PREVENTING FURTHER SPREAD

Where possible all areas affected by Japanese knotweed should be fenced off and isolated from any activities on site immediately to avoid potential knotweed spread. The fencing should be erected at least 7 metres away from any visible knotweed growth to protect rhizomes close to the surface from disturbance (see *Property Care Association's 'Code of Practice for the Management of Japanese Knotweed [April 2018]'* and *Environment Agency 'Treatment and disposal of invasive non-native plants: RPS 178 (Apr 2019)'*).

No material is to leave site from the knotweed areas, except as part of specially supervised knotweed treatment works. No new materials should be stored in or adjacent to Japanese knotweed areas.

Where there is a high risk of knotweed infestation from neighbouring land, contact the landowner and agree on a co-ordinated treatment programme.

INTRODUCTION

CONTACTS

JAPANESE KNOTWEED CONTROL DETAILS

NAME:	Japanese Knotweed Control Ltd
ADDRESS:	Houldsworth Mill, Houldsworth Street Reddish, Stockport, SK5 6DA
TEL:	0161 850 1604
WEBSITE:	www.japaneseknotweedcontrol.com
JKC Surveyor/JMD – Richard Podmore: richardpodmore@japaneseknotweedcontrol.com – 07971 332 823	
JKC Technical Site Operative – Mike Wadsworth – 07709 009 289	

QUALIFICATIONS

Japanese Knotweed Control Ltd is a specialist knotweed contractor working throughout England, Wales and Scotland for Commercial and Private Clients. They are an affiliated member of the Invasive Non-Native Specialists Association (INNSA) & Property Care Association's (PCA).

All our staff are fully trained to undertake their works - we have a 100% CSCS policy for all staff involved with the management and undertaking of operational works on construction sites.

All operational staff that undertake herbicide application works have the statutory NPTC PA1 and PA6 license (and PA6 AW for those spraying on or near water).

JAPANESE KNOTWEED OVERVIEW

This plant is classed as a non-native invasive weed and should be controlled using herbicide or excavated in its entirety off site to a licensed landfill tip for controlled and authorised disposal. The top growth of the plant will naturally die back over winter, which does not indicate that the plant is dead. The plant has a strong, dense, and vigorous root system, which if left unchecked can cause damage to surrounding buildings or hard standing surfaces.

Contact with the plant can be a cause of spreading the infestation to other areas of a site as it can grow or recover from the smallest fragments which will form its own root structure and top growth. Therefore, the guidelines below are provided to aid in the safe removal of the plant via excavation of the all-target vegetation, roots structure and contaminated subsoil.

SITE SPECIFIC DETAILS

As per the plan in the original proposal, the following works will take place in the corresponding areas;

JK1 - This area will be excavated and removed off site to licenced landfill for controlled and authorised disposal after the tree removal is complete.

JK2 - This area will be excavated and removed off site as with **JK1**, where viable plant material is identified, and trees where possible will be retained.

JK3 - This area will be excavated where viable JK plants are present, and the material will be removed off site to licenced landfill.

JK4 - This will be excavated where viable rhizome is present, however, all mature tree and shrub are to be retained wherever possible.

JK5 – This area will be excavated and removed off site.

JK6 & JK7 – This will be treated and monitored by JKC until eradication is complete.

The warranty for the site will be issued on completion of the excavation process.

PROCESS METHOD OF WORKS

Pins and tape to be installed, if required, to prevent any enabling works on site from encroaching onto the contaminated area, and a JKC operative will be present if work is to be undertaken in this area. JKC will supervise the contractor whilst working in areas containing JK. The excavation of the JK will be completed using suitable plant machinery and supervised by trained JKC operatives.

EXCAVATION PROCESS AND METHODOLOGY GUIDELINES

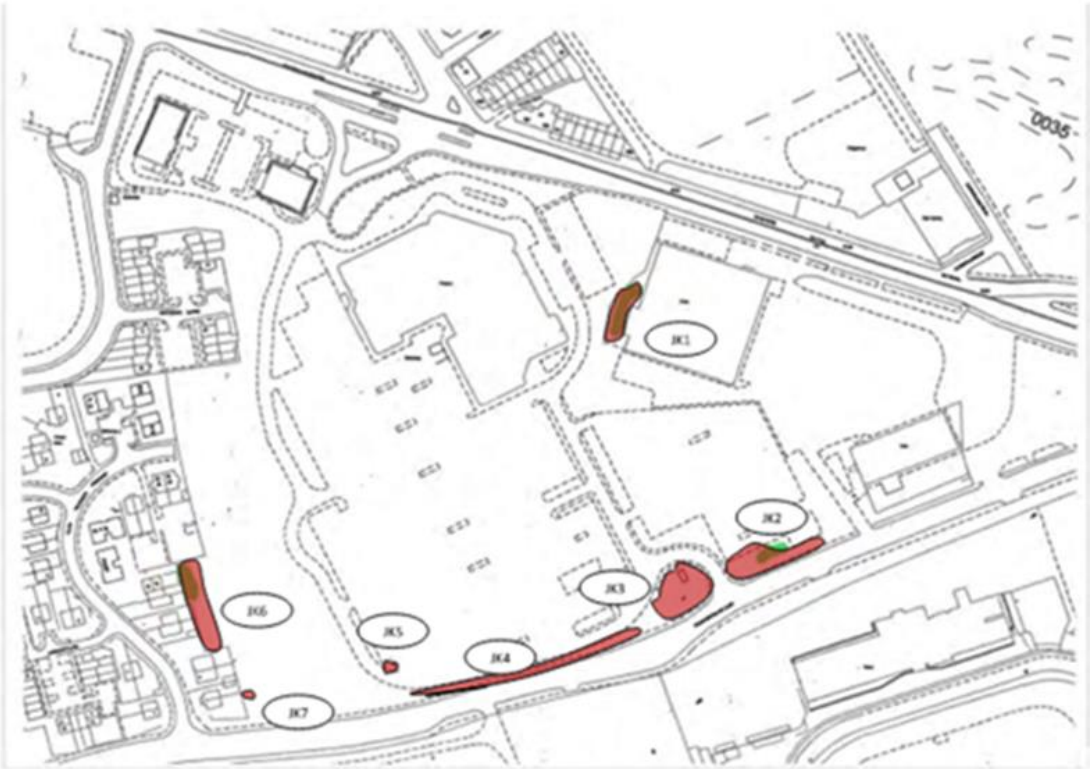
All excavation works must be completed by trained operatives ensuring that no viable Japanese Knotweed (JK) plant material remains in the excavated area and no cross contamination is occurred during the removal process.

- On arrive to site the area of infestation should be assessed to verify the size and scope of the area to be removed.
- This area should then be cordoned off to restrict the access by nonessential operatives and a clear/clean approach/exit to the area must be established for the excavator to operate with the minimal impact to the contaminated area.
- All site utility service plans must be reviewed and assessed against the area/s to be excavated and a sweep of the area using a Cat & Genny completed before breaking ground. This should be repeated throughout the dig ensuring bucket lifts are clear of any utilities. ***Should any unforeseen strikes be incurred, all works must stop immediately, and the main contractor site manager informed immediately. No further works can be done until the area is made safe and authorization to continuum provided by the main contractor site manager.***
- Only the bucket of the excavator should meet the target area with the tracks/wheels kept at a distance. All movements and bucket lifts must be supervised and monitored so no loss of controlled removal is incurred. A designated area should be identified for stockpile waiting/loaded for removal & clean down. The clean down is completed manually, scraping off all soil from the tires/tracks and washing down removing all debris.
- Once the excavation has commenced, the JK is removed by systematically lifting one bucket at a time and the load assessed prior to continuing with the next bucket. This ensures that an understanding of the volume of roots and vegetation is monitored as the works progress.
- Based on the material removed, a better understanding of the make-up of the sub soil will be evident and it will become clearer to the operatives exactly how much will need to be removed. It is at this stage that less than the 3 meters by 7-meter guidelines can be assessed.
- Once the JK material within the soil starts to reduce, it may then be possible to 'root trace', which will mean less subsoil will need to be excavated.
- The excavation/root tracing will continue until the operatives are satisfied that all JK viable plant material is completely removed, and the area is clear of any contamination.
- If the JK waste is to be removed off-site the waste should be carefully loaded onto tipper wagons ensuring no loss of material during this process and covers placed over to protect from falling fragments.
- All waste material that is removed off-site must go to a licensed landfill tip for controlled and authorized disposal.
- If a vertical root barrier membrane is required, this will be fitted to the required depth by excavating a trench to the length required and backfilled with clean material from site. This will ensure that the membrane is held in the correct place to protect from any intrusion from the JK onto the site from the surrounding land.

If at any time a problem is incurred and advice is required for the main contractor on site, operatives should stop and contact Japanese Knotweed Control for assistance (see contact below).

INVASIVE PLANT LOCATION

Fig 1 – Showing approximate location of knotweed (not to scale)



Legend for Site Location Plan		
		Extent of Japanese knotweed (as referenced in Schedule of Infestations) visible or reported

LIMITATIONS OF SURVEY

The findings of this survey are the result of a visual inspection only and should not be taken as a guarantee that Japanese knotweed, or other types of knotweed, are not present on the site or neighbouring land. The presence of Japanese knotweed can sometimes be concealed by property owners (occupiers) or contractors deliberately or by accident by way of: Physical removal of the plants stems and crowns through grounds maintenance, vegetation clearance or site demolition or by being covered over with turf, hard standing, landscape fabric, ornamental gravel, bark mulch and so on.

JKC Main Contact for Assistance: Richard Podmore 07971 332 823

Details Provided by: Rob Gibbs - JKC Project Administration Manager

Date: Wednesday 21st April 2021

On behalf of: Japanese Knotweed Control Ltd



Japanese Knotweed Control Ltd
Houldsworth Business and Arts Centre
Houldsworth Mill
Houldsworth Street
Reddish
Stockport
SK5 6DA

Tel : 0845 643 1168

Email : info@japaneseknotweedcontrol.com

Website : www.japaneseknotweedcontrol.com



Follow us :



Company Registration number: 06047453



please consider the environment and only print this if required