

Treatment of Invasive Alien Plant Species – Advance Notice

Introduction

Invasive alien species (IAS) are species that are initially transported through human activities outside of their natural range across ecological barriers, and that then survive, reproduce and spread, and that have negative impacts on the ecology of their new location as well as serious economic and social consequences. Of the invasive alien plant species (IAPS) identified in Ireland, two in particular are a major cause of concern on the road network; Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia Japonica*) and Giant Rhubarb (*Gunnera Tinctoria*). When growing close to road carriageways, these species can impact on sight lines, cause damage to the road infrastructure by growing up through the asphalt at the road edge and other structures.

Contract Works

Donegal County Council wish to advise land owners that Contractors are due to be appointed in August 2016 to begin a 3 year IAPS treatment programme. Treatment will target infestations on a number of the national routes, their interaction with regional roads within the county and may involve the use of chemical sprays designed specifically for this purpose. The works will be undertaken in a limited treatment window and will be completed by the end of October each year.

For Further Information contact:

Roads and Transportation, Donegal County Council, County House,
Lifford, Co.Donegal
Further information regarding these contracts will be available at
www.donegalcoco.ie

Donegal County Council wishes to acknowledge the co-operation of land owners in undertaking these essential works.



Infestation of Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia Japonica*) along a road verge



Infestation of Giant Rhubarb (*Gunnera Tinctoria*) in close proximity to a major road.