

ESC POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS ON JAPANESE KNOTWEED

I. Japanese Knotweed (JK) is an invasive species whose unchecked spread is a threat to Mount Kemble Lake community-owned and private property and to the Lake.

II. General Policy on JK - Whether near Lake water or at distance from water, the Board should adopt approved approaches used in NJ (DEP) and in the Great Swamp to control and/or eliminate Japanese Knotweed. It is recommended that it become MKL policy that it will make every reasonable effort to remove JK from its community property.

A. Physical removal of JK, especially near the Lake edge (within 5') should be prioritized on all properties around the Lake.

B. Use of Herbicides should be done in consideration of the following guidelines:

1. Acceptable Herbicide use should be guided by NJDEP and Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge (GSNWR) recommendation and procedures.
 - a) Glyphosate (products such as RoundUp) is acceptable for use within the MKL community when used in accordance with instructions.
 - b) Glyphosate use for JK removal near the Lake requires a certified and insured operator, such as Solitude, in combination with an appropriate surfactant.
2. Unacceptable herbicides should not be used within the MKL Community.
 - a) Garlon 4 Ultra is considered unacceptable for use anywhere due to potential danger to groundwater and to fish.
3. Any “new” herbicide should be evaluated for risk to the MKL Community and be deemed “acceptable” or “unacceptable”. Such evaluation should consider the herbicides Material Safety Data Sheet as well as NJDEP and GSNWT practices and recommendations. The ESC can be relied upon as a resource for such evaluation.

C. No use of chemical herbicides should be permitted within the community garden.

III. Reporting on the Status of JK as Part of the ESC’s Annual Conservation Easement Report (ACER)– Going forward, the ESC shall document the presence of Japanese Knotweed within its ACER, especially highlighting any threats to the Lake itself.

IV. The Issuance of Community Guidelines on JK – The Board should prepare a safe JK treatment standard and provide all residents with written guidelines for the treatment of JK. It is recommended that that Board periodically encourage residents to report the presence of JK on their property to the ESC and make every effort to destroy and remove it.

September 11, 2023