

Invasive plant species:

Invasive plant species are species which have normally been introduced to the natural local environment by humans. They become invasive as they spread easily and take over areas, out-competing our native plant species. This is because they have no natural predators or diseases in the area to suppress them as they did not evolve in the local habitat.

Although it is tempting, please do not attempt to remove these species yourself as there are various regulations surrounding invasive plant removal and permissions often need to be sought from land owners.

- **Japanese Knotweed**

This plant spreads easily and takes over large areas. It is extremely difficult to get rid of and needs special treatment by professionals. *Uncommon in the Hills.*



- **Himalayan Balsam**

Balsam is usually found along water courses or areas which flood, as the seeds are carried downstream, it spreads very quickly. *Uncommon in the Hills.*



- **Laurel**

This plant was originally planted as game cover in big estates. The leaf litter is toxic and prevents other plants growing around it. *Common in the Hills.*



- **Giant Hogweed**

This plant is highly toxic, the sap severely burns skin it comes into contact with. Do not attempt to touch this plant. *Rare in the Hills.*



- **Pheasant Berry**

This plant is also known as Himalayan Honeysuckle. It is not a dangerous plant though it does take over and has bamboo like stalks. *Common in the Hills.*



- **Snowberry**

This plant is highly invasive and can quickly take over an area. Its white berries are poisonous to humans. *Common in the Hills.*

