



Benton Soil and Water Conservation District

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Thornton Lake Neighborhood Captains

RE: Knotweed in Thornton Lake

Dear Captains,

In mid-May, I was contacted by Kathy Cook, who had heard from Annette Higinbotham that a “well-sized Japanese Knotweed plant” had been found “on left jag of land, immediately below west side of bridge”. I informed Jim Stouder, Benton County Public Works, and he had it treated. I inquired about the treatment on Thursday, June 6th and at that time, it had been treated. Jim says he is going to check on it again to see if the treatment was effective, because it rained after it was treated.

Japanese knotweed is a pernicious invasive plant, so it’s important that the neighbors of Thornton Lake know about it, how to identify it, and who to contact if they find any. When you share the brochures with your neighbors, let them know that they can contact you with any questions or report plants of concern to the Invasives Hotline. I receive all the hotline reports for Benton County. As they help us collect data on this possible infestation, we can begin to get an idea on the extent of knotweed’s spread and what the best steps would be to control it, if necessary.

Thanks to Annette and Kathy for sharing information. Their efforts resulted in the removal of the known knotweed by Benton County employees. And thanks to you, Captains, for sharing these brochures and background information with your neighbors. If you have any questions, contact me.

Sincerely,

Heath Keirstead
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