

How

further advancement.

Step 2: Cut, Bundle & Bake

At a Forest Hero workshop sponsored by VT Invasives I learned that the best way to kill and dispose of the unforgiving plant is to cut it, bundle it, and bake it. I located a 10' x 25' roll of heavy-duty black plastic at a local hardware store and we made a "burrito bag". We cut and placed stalks of Knotweed in a large pile placed in the center and toward one end of the unfurled roll. Excess plastic was folded over the pile and secured with stones.

Step 3: Cut Off the Energy Supply

Every two weeks, we returned to cut, bundle and bake the short stalks that were just beginning to leaf out. Herein lies the genius! First, allow the energy stored in the plant's roots to travel up the stalk and begin producing leaves. Second, activate a photosynthesis intervention by cutting the leaves before they have a chance to fully open and gather light energy. Remember, timing is everything. Japanese Knotweed is a master of storing energy. Simply cutting stalks before leaves are forming does not deplete the energy source. Leaves forming is evidence that energy is being released. Open leaves are evidence that energy is being replaced. I repeat: cut
