

## Protect Our Pollinators Policy on Pesticides

### PESTICIDES

Protect our Pollinators (POP) does not support the use of **insecticides, acaricides, fungicides, or rodenticides** in our gardens and landscapes. Nor do we support the use of **chemical fertilizers or weed and feed products**.

Protect Our Pollinators does not support **herbicide spraying** for weed control, grass removal and brush clearing.

### INVASIVE SPECIES

Manual removal (cutting, digging) should always be the first step in controlling most invasive species. Herbicide use may be necessary for shrubs, vines, and herbaceous plants (Mugwort) that have dense and complex root systems and for large-scale infestations. A state-licensed pesticide applicator who prioritizes doing minimal harm to nontarget species and who knows the proper timing and control methods for specific plants should be consulted when considering the use of herbicides.

**Japanese Knotweed** and **Tree of Heaven** - For these invasives, manual removal is ineffective and will only serve to stimulate underground rhizomes (roots) to grow and spread. Even small plants should not be pulled or dug as broken roots will regenerate. Timing of treatment is critical and multiple applications will be needed. For this reason, a state-licensed pesticide applicator who is experienced with these invasive plants is recommended.

Only when it is known that the invasive has been controlled, should replanting with a native species be done. Monitoring for resprouts will be important. For some invasives, additional treatment(s) will be necessary.