

# Dangerous weed could cost property owners if not removed by June 1

By Graeme Frisque  
[gfrisque@metroland.com](mailto:gfrisque@metroland.com)

The Town of Halton Hills is warning residents of the discovery of Giant Hogweed within town limits and reminds property owners of their legal obligation to have it destroyed.

This is a giant plant that looks like Queen Anne's Lace but is very dangerous to handle. If you find it, please do not touch it with your bare hands and keep children away from it, said the town in a release.

According to the Halton Region invasive species webpage, contact with Giant Hogweed can cause serious burns to the skin and temporary or permanent blindness.

As a result of the danger to human health, the region encourages residents to hire a licensed weed exterminator to remove it.

According to [invasivespecies.com](http://invasivespecies.com): The clear watery sap of Giant hogweed contains toxins that can cause severe dermatitis (inflammation of the skin). You can get severe burns if you get the sap on your skin and the skin is then exposed to sunlight. Symptoms occur within 48 hours and consist of painful blisters. Purplish scars may form that last for

many years.

If discovered on your property or elsewhere in town, the region requests residents call the Town of Halton Hills to report it at 905-873-2601.

In Halton Hills, Bylaw 2008-0138, Part 3, Section 8 states: Property Owners are required to destroy and remove all nuisance weeds and weed seeds on their land.

Those who fail to remove it and a number of other noxious weeds could face fines.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all persons in possession of land, in accordance with The Weed Control Act R.S.O. 1990, c. W.5., that unless weed seeds and noxious weeds growing on their lands within the Town of Halton Hills are destroyed by June 1, 2017 and throughout the season, the Town of Halton Hills may enter upon the said lands and have weeds destroyed, charging the costs against the land in taxes as set out in The Weed Control Act, said the town in its release.

The Town earnestly solicits co-operation of all property owners.

In addition to Giant Hogweed, the bylaw requires residents to remove and dispose of a number of other noxious weeds from their properties including: Black Dog-Strangling



Giant hogweed, which can be very dangerous to humans when handled, has been discovered in Halton Hills.

Photo by Flickr user [debs-eye](#)

Vine, European Buckthorn, Serrated Tussock, Bull Thistle, Smooth Bedstraw, Canada Thistle, Jointed Goatgrass, Sow Thistle, Coltsfoot, Knapweed, Tansy Ragwort, Common Barberry, Kudzu, Wild Chervil, Common Crupina, Leafy Spurge, Wild Parsnip, Cypress Spurge, Poison Hemlock, Woolly Cupgrass, Dodder, Poison Ivy, Dog-Strangling Vine, Ragweed.

The Weed Control Act does not apply to

noxious weeds or weed seeds on lands far enough away from any land used for agricultural purposes that they do not interfere with that use, said the town, adding dandelions, burdock and goldenrod are not considered noxious plants under the Act.

Anyone with questions or concerns should contact municipal law enforcement co-ordinator Kelly Withers at 905-873-2601 ext. 2330.

**Ask Penny** Your choice **39.98** each  
 Enjoy ya aft ya! 15cm pot, reg. \$59.99 each

Sequestered Sunshine  
 Scarlet Heaven  
 Visions of Sugarplums  
 Singing in the Rain

**San ia** (Strawberry, Genovese Basil, Columnar Basil)  
 Wonder Wok Mix

**24.99** each  
 Mixed Drink Herb Planters  
 \*10" deco pot. Lemonade (Spearmint, Mint, Ginger & Lavender Grosso) also available.

**Mix & Match 2 for 24.98**  
 Mixed Salad Bowls  
 \*12" bowl, Reg. \$14.99 each, Endless Summer & Kale Storm Bowl also available.

*Great Gifts for Mom*

Mother's Day Hanging Baskets  
**34.99** each

Choose from Pink, Red, Salmon or Lavender Mix

Regal Geraniums  
 Buy 3, Get the 4th **FREE**



**Sheridan Nurseries**

Online

