**WANTED**

Giant Hogweed

**Seedlings**
- Have a rosette pattern
- Germinate from early Spring through the growing season

**Juvenile Plants**
- Sprout from over-wintering roots each year for 2-5 years until the plant is ready to bolt and flower
- Are large, compound, sharply and unevenly lobed

**Giant Hogweed**
- Is a public health hazard and listed as a Federal as well as a Massachusetts Noxious Weed
- Causes severe irritation when its sap comes in contact with skin or eyes that later are exposed to the sun
- Is found most commonly in rich moist soils along roadsides, stream banks and waste grounds
- May grow to 14 or more feet tall
- Dies back in the Fall and takes on a skeleton like appearance, with long rays of dried flower heads shooting out from tall brown stalks

**Flowers**
- Occur from mid-June to mid-July
- Form from clusters of small white flowers at the end of long rays
- Produce dozens of seeds
- May measure up to 2 feet across

**Stems**
- Are hollow and range in size from 2-4 inches in diameter
- Have a coarse hairy texture with reddish-purple blotches
- Have larger coarse white hairs found at the base of the leaf stalk
- Contain clear sap that causes painful, burning blisters in exposed skin

**Skin Irritation**
- Is caused by chemicals found in the plant’s sap when contacted skin is later exposed to sunlight
- May take the form of large, painful, burning blisters
- May also take the form of red blotches that later develop into purplish or blackened scars
- Usually will appear within a few days of exposure to the plant’s sap

**DON’T** Touch or handle plants with bare hands
**DON’T** Allow children to play in Giant Hogweed
**DON’T** Transplant Giant Hogweed, plant its seeds or give away plants or seeds
**DO** Wash immediately with soap and water if hogweed sap contacts your skin
**DO** Report locations of any Giant Hogweed plants

www.massnrc.org/pests

This material was made possible, in part, by a cooperative agreement from the United States Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). It may not express APHIS’s views.