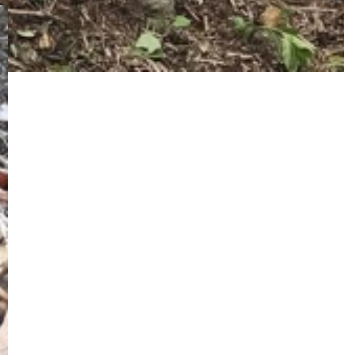
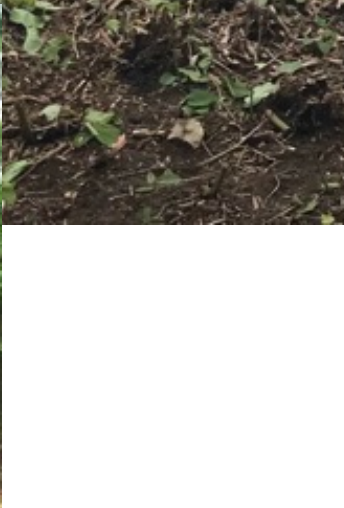


Battling Invasive Plants...Nix the Knotweed



Panelists & Sites

Diana Fiske
Whalebone Cove
Lyme, CT

Courtney MacDonald
Ferry Landing
South Glastonbury, CT

Fishers Island, NY



Suzanne Thompson

Old Lyme Town Hall
Lyme Art Association
Roger Tory Peterson
Estuary Center
Old Lyme, CT



Michelle Royce Williams
Veterans Memorial Park
East Lyme, CT

Plant Invaders in our Landscape

Connecticut's Top Ten....

- Japanese Knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*)
- Oriental Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)
- Japanese Barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*)
- Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*)
- Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*)
- Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)
- Autumn Olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*)
- Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*)
- Mile-a-Minute Vine (*Persicaria perfoliata*)
- Swallow-wort (*Cynanchum louiseae*)



Japanese Knotweed

Reynoutria japonica

Polygonum cuspidatum

Falopia japonicum



Why is Japanese Knotweed such a Problem?

What sounded too good to be true...

- Fast-growing
- Creates dense screen
- Deer won't eat it
- Insect and disease free



- Aggressive, early growth crowds out native plants



- Spreads by roots, rhizomes, cuttings & seeds



- No native predators

Knotweed after the first killing frost



Erosion Problems Exacerbated by Knotweed





Japanese Knotweed UK map: What does Japanese Knotweed look like? Spread of KILLER plant

JAPANESE KNOTWEED is infesting Britain and wreaking havoc to residents, ruining homes and lives as it makes its destructive and determined way across the country. What does Japanese Knotweed look like? And where has it spread in the UK?

By KAISHA LANGTON
PUBLISHED: 09:26, Fri, May 17, 2019 | UPDATED: 13:16, Fri, May 17, 2019



Plant expert reveals UK weed that LOWERS property value



Japanese knotweed: The plant bringing misery to homeowners

By Conor Macaulay
BBC News NI Environment Correspondent

© 19 June 2015



Japanese knotweed is fast growing and difficult to kill

It was about eight years ago when the nightmare started at the north Belfast home of Liz and Adrian Atkinson.

They had lived there for 18 years but it was only recently that they noticed a rapid growth on a bank behind their property.

It turned out to be Japanese knotweed, an invasive species brought to these shores by 19th century botanists.

It had evolved to survive on the slopes of volcanoes in Japan.

But, over here, it's getting out of control.

It's fast-growing and difficult to kill. It can punch through concrete, doing damage to house foundations and drainage.

The species is so destructive that banks are refusing mortgages for those who have it on or near their property.



Japanese Knotweed, Invasive Plant or Wild Food and Medicine..?

5,564 views · Apr 13, 2017

2K 28 SHARE SAVE ...



Herbal Jedi
133K subscribers

SUBSCRIBED

Join Herbalist Yarrow Willard in looking at one of the most notoriously invasive weeds on the planet!!

Japanese knotweed: How much can Japanese knotweed knock off price of YOUR home?

JAPANESE KNOTWEED is a deterrent for buyers and mortgage lenders alike, but how much can an infestation of Japanese knotweed knock off the price of your home?

By GEORGINA LAUD
PUBLISHED: 19:25, Thu, Jan 23, 2020 | UPDATED: 19:49, Thu, Jan 23, 2020



Japanese knotweed: The invasive weed can impact the price of your home (Image: GETTY IMAGES)



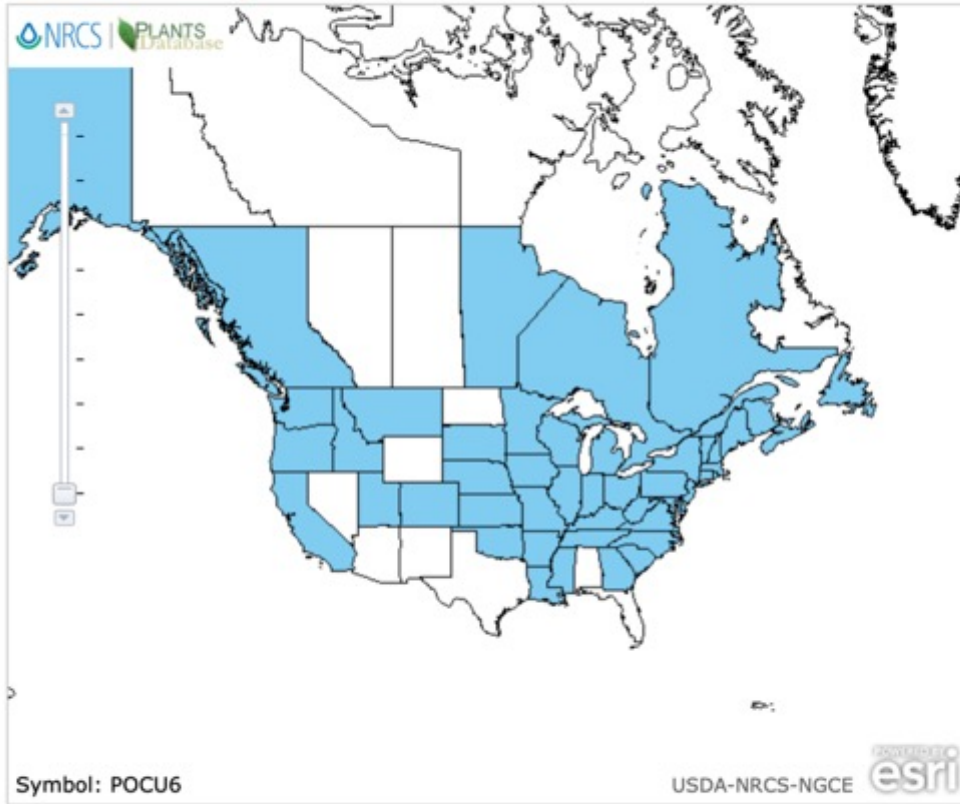
Polygonum cuspidatum Siebold & Zucc.
Japanese knotweed

Show Tabs



General Information	
Symbol:	POCU6
Group:	Dicot
Family:	Polygonaceae
Duration:	Perennial
Growth Habit:	Forb/herb Subshrub
Native Status:	AK I CAN I L48 I SPM I
Data Source and Documentation	

About our new maps



Symbol: POCU6
USDA-NRCS-NGCE esri

Native
 Native, No County Data
 Introduced
 Introduced, No County Data
 Both
 Both, No County Data
 Absent/Unreported

Native Status:

L48
 AK
 HI
 PR
 VI
 NAV
 CAN
 GL
 SPM
 NA

Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*)

Key ID Features

- Arrangement: alternate
- Leaves: simple, smooth edge, broad, heart shaped
- Flowers: spikes of small white flowers
- Fruit: tiny and winged
- Stem: smooth, hollow, jointed; reddish young stalks; dead, brown stalks persist into winter
- Root: rhizomes
- Growth Habit: herbaceous perennial growing 3-10 ft. tall

YouTube Search

Citizens! Use Vital Signs!
 Help us track the movement of Japanese knotweed throughout our state and prevent it from spreading further!
 Go to vitalsignsme.org today

Japanese knotweed
 44,649 views • Jun 28, 2012
 128 likes 55 comments SHARE SAVE

VSGMRI
 63 subscribers
 SUBSCRIBE

Episode 2 of the Invasive Species Summer Video Blog. This episode looks at Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia sachalinensis*), a species that is spreading quite aggressively throughout our state of Maine.
 SHOW MORE

Nix the Knotweed!

- Carbohydrate deprivation method
- Three cuttings each summer for 3 years
- Organic, no chemicals, uses hand tools
- Field tested over 10 years



NixtheKnotweed

Published by Suzanne Thompson · May 11 at 3:42 PM ·

We are here to help you Nix the Knotweed! This all-volunteer effort by organic gardeners and nature-lovers is sharing a method perfected over 10 years in coastal CT. Start cutting invasive Knotweed now. Cut stems close to the ground. Remove live stems so they do not resprout into new plants. If you live in CT, our municipal trash is incinerated. Bag your cuttings and put in the trash. In other states, please check where your trash goes. PLEASE DO NOT toss live cuttings into c... See More



89,619
People Reached

13,262
Engagements

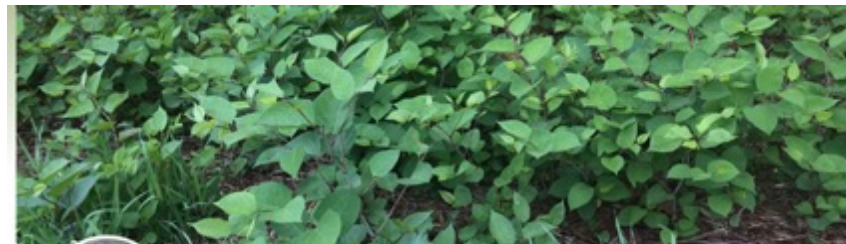
Boost Post

You and 149 others

98 Comments 434 Shares



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NixtheKnotweed

@NixtheKnotweed · Home & Garden Website

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See All

Got Knotweed? Join our volunteer campaign & learn how to chop down your knotweed and dispose of cuttings, 3 chops this growing season (we'll remind yo... See More

1,096 people like this including 70 of your friends



1,229 people follow this

NixtheKnotweed
May 20 at 10:58 AM

Welcome our newest Nix the Knotweed site! Knotweed is taking over this slope next to the Vet's Field overflow parking lot in Niantic Village. Start your Memorial Day weekend right with some volunteer effort! Wear sturdy boots, bring clippers, loppers, gloves, bug spray & water bottle. Come learn how to ID and control invasive knotweed. And visit Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve next door.



YouTube Search



Nix the Knotweed - Let's get started!

11,504 views · Aug 20, 2020

79

Dislike

Share

Save

More



Nix the Knotweed
72 subscribers

Subscribed

We explain the 3-step process to control invasive Japanese Knotweed. See what the plant looks like, tools you need, and when and how to chop and dispose of it.

Show More

Nix the Knotweed!



Pine Grove's Success Story



- Cut back 3 times
- Repeat for 3 years
- Dispose of/ destroy the live cuttings
- Replant native plants



3 Tools

3 Times

3 Years



(Don't forget the bug spray. And sturdy boots!)

Best Times to Cut Back Knotweed

- Late May/Early June
- Mid-July
- Mid-August



What You Don't Do



Weed whacking & mowing spread viable cuttings



Don't pull - deep roots break off and sprout new plants



Pesticides can harm other species, including humans

Pine Grove Year One



Pilot Program 100' x 40'



Pine Grove Year 3

- Keep watching for sprouts
- Observe succession of plants
- Focus on other invasives and start adding desired plants

See more in the Photo Albums
at [NixtheKnotweed](#) on Facebook





Pine Grove 5 Years Later



Patience is a Virtue – Vigilance is Key

Pine Grove, May 2020 – 8 Years Later



Nix the Knotweed Started - 2020 Sites



Lyme Art Association
Old Lyme



Old Lyme Land Trust
John Lohmann CT River



Old Lyme Town Hall



Evening, morning & weekend
cutting parties

Follow NixtheKnotweed on FB
nixtheknotweed@gmail.com
Text Suzanne – 860-662-1531



Lyme Art Association



May 2020 – annual mowing wasn't working, so we started cutting & bagging



Sept. 2020
1st year

Lyme Art Association

Year 2, after repeated cuttings



Aug. 4, 2021

October 27, 2021





Lyme Art Association

October 27, 2021

Native plants coming back – rushes, sedges, asters,
ferns, Virginia creeper, and Poison Ivy



2022 – Yes, it works...slowly...

Native plants continue to appear & grow



Lyme Art Assoc, end of 3rd year, 3 cuttings



Whalebone Cove – Silvio O Conte Preserve



- Active Friends of Whalebone Cove group
- Mobilized first to pull aquatic species
Trapa Water chestnut & *Hydrilla*
- US Fish & Wildlife Service permission required

Volunteers Cutting Year 1 - 2021



First cutting, May 14, 2021

Whalebone Cove after 2 Years



March 2023 – 3rd year of cutting will resume in May

Veterans Memorial Park, Niantic



First cuttings 2021



Cutting parties continued in 2022

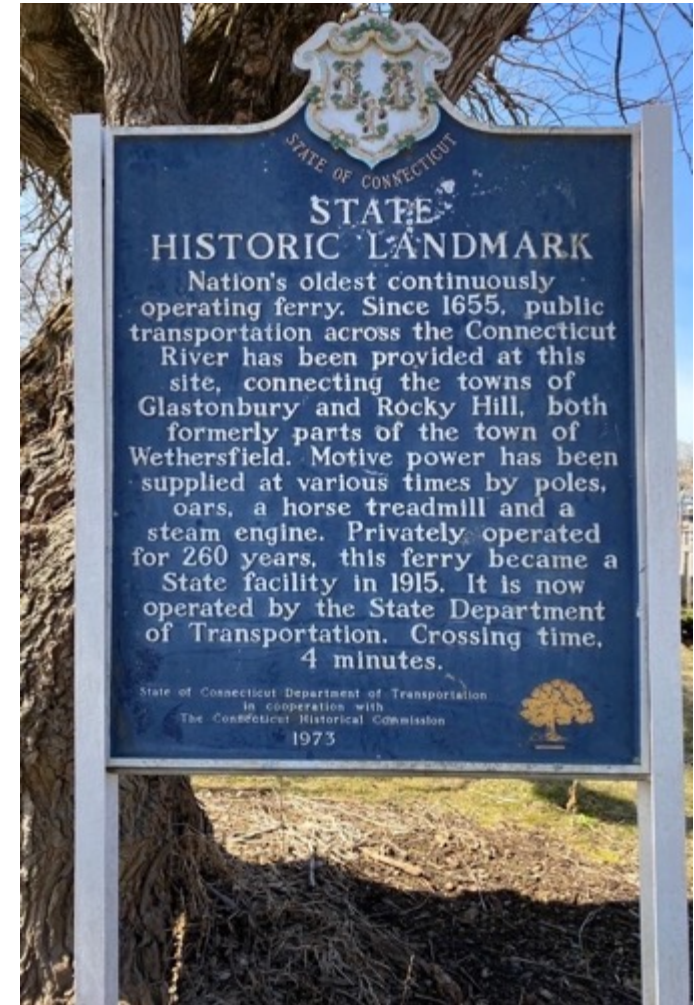
Project sign for curious onlookers





Pitch Pine
saplings
planted by
Friends of
Oswegatchie
Hills in 2022

Ferry Landing, South Glastonbury



Knotweed & Garlic Mustard



Ferry Landing



2nd year cutting in 2022



Fishers Island, New York



June 2021
Before 1st cutting



June 2021
After 1st cutting

Control along Fishers Island Bike Path



Town of Waterford Park

47 Oswegatchie Road



Native *Monotropa uniflora* observed

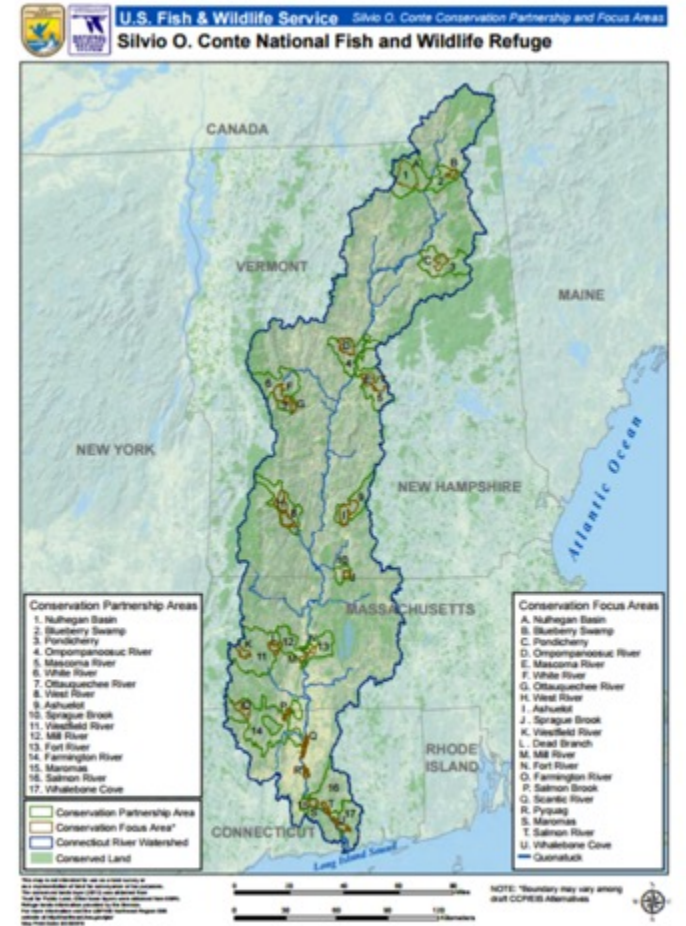


Native wintergreen ground cover returning

2 cuttings each year, 2020, 2021, 2022



Permissions, Permits, Waivers



A map shows the regions in the four-state Silvio O. Conte Wildlife Refuge that U.S. Fish and Wildlife wants to add to the refuge.

CREDIT U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE

Finding and Organizing Volunteers



Motivating and Keeping Volunteers



What to Do with the Cuttings?



Invasive Plant Propagules can be bagged and tossed into CT's incinerated waste stream



Solarizing Knotweed Cuttings – 2021 experiment

Lyme-Old Lyme Food Share Garden



Knotweed cuttings dried out over summer while smothering tarped invasive Mugwort

Once completely dried out and dead, Knotweed stems will not resprout



Dead stems are safe to compost and allow to decompose but live stems resprout and grow

Other Alternatives?

- Separate IPPs pile at Town Transfer Stations?
 - Solarize/Die Down
- Vermiculture – worms?
- Goats – eat it raw?
- Pigs – eat it steam-treated w/food scraps?
- Anaerobic digesters?
- Biochar?



Honey Hill Farm, Lyme



©Wiggle Room



US EPA – How Anaerobic Digesters Work

Bio Char in CT!



www.zip06.com/features/20220706/after-the-flowers-are-planted/



Old Saybrook, Environment, News

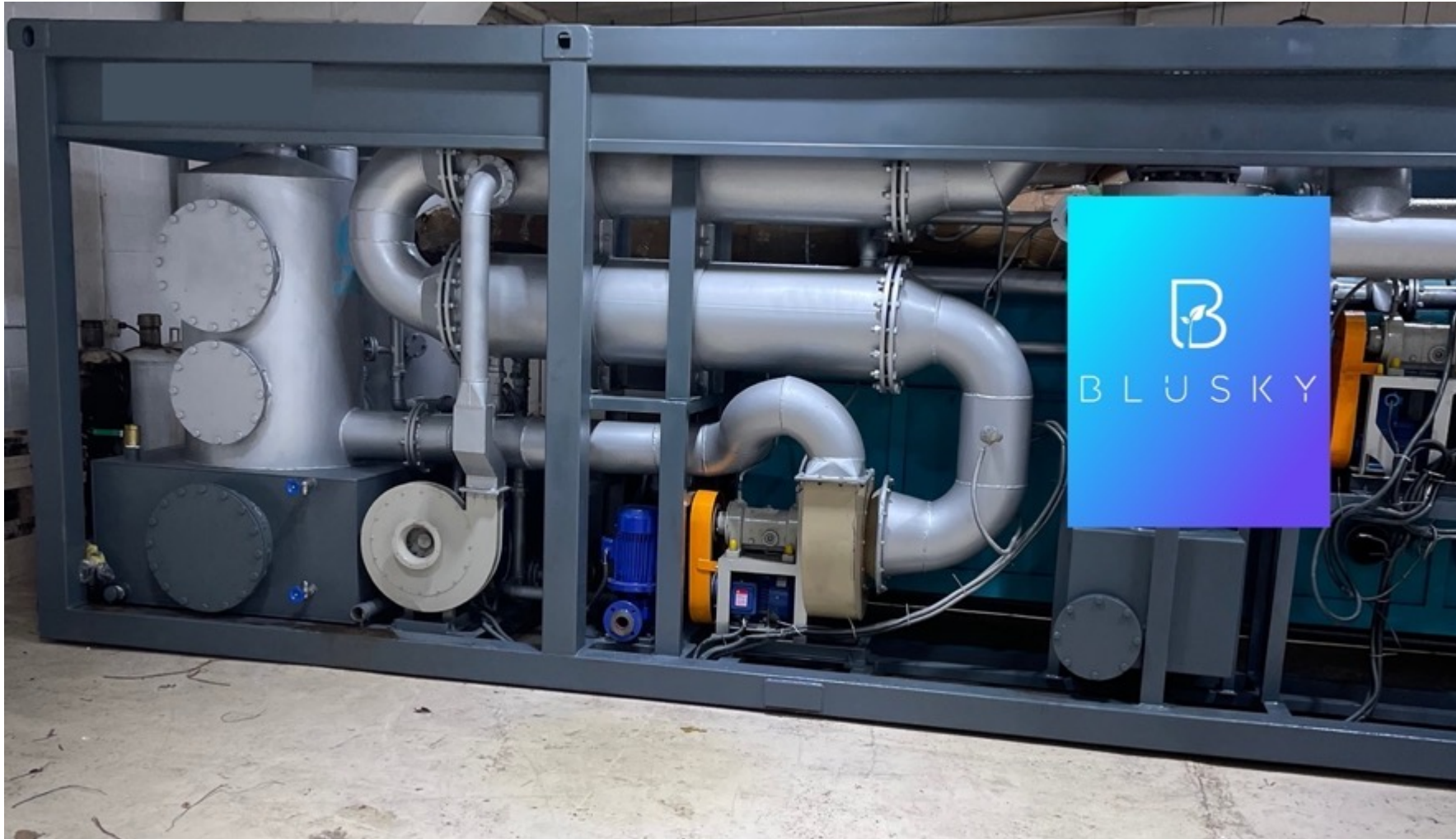
Old Saybrook Partners Launch Carbon Capture Startup

—Brendan Crowley, 5.12.2022



<https://ctexaminer.com/2022/05/12/old-saybrook-partners-launch-carbon-capture-startup/>

Could Bio Char be Part of the Solution?



<https://blusky.io>

2023 Challenge - CT's Waste Crisis

Our Trash to Energy Incinerators are going away...



Starlings hunt for food scraps on a pile of newly dumped garbage on the tipping floor at the MIRA facility in Hartford's South Meadows. An average of 2,500 tons of garbage are dumped and processed at the trash-to-energy plant daily.

CLOE POISSON

- 22+% of our municipal waste is food scraps
- 11+% is other green waste
 - Including Invasive Plant Propagules (IPPs)
- MIRA Incinerator Hartford shut down July 2022
- Towns paying more to ship waste to landfills in other states
- Major push by CT DEEP to compost food waste
- What to do with Invasive Plant Parts?

Does it make sense to use fossil fuels to bag and transport plant materials to land fills in other states?

Nix the Knotweed 2023

- More locations
- More volunteers
- More solarizing & other approaches
- Good outdoor exercise
- No thorns, pricklers or itchy sap



How you can help

- Find your patch of Knotweed
- Organize or join a Cutting Party
- Follow NixtheKnotweed FB page
- Help us make this a Citizen Science effort



Patience... Persistence

and Restore...



Panelists & Sites

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