



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Division**

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**DATE: 09/03/2014**

**SUBJECT: Help Tackle Invasive Bamboo at Upcoming Events**

**BY: Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator**

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## **Help Tackle Invasive Bamboo at Upcoming Events**

[Duluth, MN] – As fall moves into the Northland, the invasive plant, Japanese Knotweed, stops growing and starts to flower. Come and learn more about the identification, removal and disposal of this fascinating invasive plant at one of the upcoming Duluth Parks *Bamboo Blasting* volunteer events.

### **September Bamboo Blastings**

Tuesday, September 9, 5:00-6:30 PM

- Volunteers are to meet at Fairmont Park, near the Lake Superior Zoo

Tuesday, September 16, 5:00-6:30 PM

- Volunteers are to meet at 40<sup>th</sup> Ave E and the Lakewalk

Tuesday, September 23, 5:00-6:30 PM

- Volunteers are to meet at 58<sup>th</sup> Ave E and the Lakewalk

Tuesday, September 30, 5:00-6:30 PM

- Volunteers are to meet at Chester Parkway and E. Skyline Parkway

*About Japanese Knotweed:* With a bamboo-like appearance, Japanese Knotweed was brought from Asia to the US in the 1800's. The plant outcompetes native vegetation and greatly alters natural ecosystems, particularly along riparian zones. Bamboo has an ability to survive floods, and, quickly colonizes scoured shorelines and islands damaged in flood events. Japanese Knotweed is difficult to control. It is a perennial plant that dies back to the ground each year, and then grows to heights of ten feet or more, often growing several inches in height per day.

These events are open to all-ages; no-experience necessary. Please dress for the weather. Registration is encouraged, as event locations are subject to change.

For more information about these events, please contact Cheryl Skafte, Volunteer Coordinator, City of Duluth, at [cskafte@duluthmn.gov](mailto:cskafte@duluthmn.gov) or 218-730-4334.

Those seeking more information about Japanese Knotweed are encouraged to visit the

Minnesota DNR website at: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialplants>.

**Are you looking for other volunteer projects for yourself, a group or family?**

Duluth Parks wants to help connect you to park and trail projects in need of willing volunteers. Projects included planting trees, removing invasive plants, weeding at the Rose Garden, clean-ups and more! We are looking for youth groups, faith communities, businesses, families, school groups and civic organizations wanting to work together to benefit our parks and trails. Groups pick the time, date and project!

Learn more about Duluth Parks Pick-A-Project [here](#).

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