Caution! Poisonous Plant!

Giant Hogweed is very poisonous:

Skin contact with the sap of this plant can make your skin very sensitive to UV light (such as sunlight) and can cause swelling, itching, and blistering that lasts for months. Some people continue having a sensitivity to UV light and experience a skin-color change that can last for years

If the sap gets into your eyes, it can cause permanent blindness

Take Caution!

- Never touch or brush up against the plant with bare skin.
- If you must work near the plant, cover all body parts using impermeable coveralls, gloves, and a face shield to protect the eyes and face.
- Avoid using power tools near the plant because breaking or crushing the stem or leaves can release the toxic sap.

The only person that should remove a plant is someone who knows

- The hazards
- What controls will prevent contact
- How to prevent dispersal of the plant (seeds scattering and later growing into full-grown plants).

What to do if you're exposed

- Wash the affected area immediately with soap and water.
- Stay out of sunlight and cover up exposed areas.
- Get medical attention immediately.



Adapted from: WSPS- Giant hogweed and other seasonal hazards 2013

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