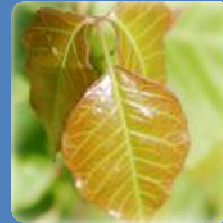


Hazardous Plants

- The following slides will discuss the five main hazardous plants found in and around Peterborough County
- These hazardous plants include: stinging nettle, poison ivy, poison sumac, wild parsnip and giant hogweed
- Distinct features of plant as well as hazardous parts will be discussed
- In addition, PPE and what to do if contact with a plant occurs will be reviewed



Stinging Nettle



Poison Ivy



Poison Sumac

I.D. Features

- Leaves grow on opposite sides perpendicular to the ground
- Leaves are 10-15 cm in length and have jagged edges
- Plants grow to about one meter length
- Woody Stem with three pointed leaves
- Leaves may appear toothed or smooth edged
- Leaves are green in summer and red in the fall/spring time
- Leaves are 5-10 cm in length
- Leaves grow opposite on small stems
- Plants grow to 1-4 meters in height and are shrub like

Hazardous Parts

- **Stems and undersides of leaves have needle-like hairs**
- **Oil of the leaves, stems, and roots can cause an irritating rash to occur**
- Oil is present on the surface areas of all these parts as well as throughout the plant

Symptoms of Contact

- Contact with hairs cause skin irritation as well as a burning sensation to area affected
- Contact with oil can cause a rash and blisters to form
- Severe itchiness can also occur at these sites



Wild
Parsnip



Giant
Hogweed

I.D. Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leaves grow opposite each other and have a distinctive “mitten” shape• Branching flower heads have small yellow flowers on them• Plants grow to 1-1.5 meters in height	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leaves grow opposite each other and are strongly toothed• Stiff hairs grow on the stem of these plants• Branching flower heads have small white flowers on them• Plants grow to 3-4.5 meters in height
Hazardous Parts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sap within the stems of the plant	
Symptoms of Contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact with sap can cause severe burns, blistering and irritation to skin with exposure to UV/sunlight• If contact occurs with eyes it can cause temporary or permanent blindness• These burns can lead to long term scarring and photo dermatitis	

PPE and what to do if contact occurs

PPE

- Long sleeved shirt
- Pants
- Closed toed shoes
- Gloves

If contact with a hazardous plant occurs

- Wash the affected area with soap and cool water
- Wash all equipment and clothing
- Apply a cool compress
- Seek medical attention if reaction persists