

PLANT LOOK-ALIKES

Giant Hogweed and Commonly Mistaken Plants in the Fraser Valley

HEIGHT	GIANT HOGWEED <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i> INVASIVE, TOXIC <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very Tall!! Up to 5 m• Flowers late June/July• Toxic sap can cause burns, blisters, and scarring. All plant parts are toxic	COW PARSNIP <i>Heracleum maximum</i> NATIVE <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can grow to 2 m• Flowers early June• Can cause skin irritation	POISON HEMLOCK <i>Conium maculatum</i> INVASIVE, TOXIC <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can grow up to 1.8 m• Flowers April/May• Toxic sap can cause burns, blisters, and scarring. All plant parts are toxic	WILD CHERVIL <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> INVASIVE <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grows up to 1.5 m tall• Flowers April/May	WATER HEMLOCK <i>Cicuta maculata</i> NATIVE, TOXIC <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grows approx. 1 m tall• Flowers late June/July• Roots are thickened, tuberous and bulbous• Toxic sap can cause burns, blisters, and scarring. All plant parts are toxic	QUEEN ANNE'S LACE <i>Daucus carota</i> INVASIVE <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grows approx. 1 m tall• Flowers August/September• Can cause skin irritation
LEAVES	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deeply serrated leaf edges• Leaves can be up to 1 m wide• Stiff hairs on undersides	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shape is similar to a maple leaves• Covered in soft hairs	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Triangular shaped fern-like leaves	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Triangular shaped fern-like leaves, covered in soft hairs• Leaf stems have mid-groove (C-shaped cross-section)	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Separated leaflets• Stiff hairs on undersides of leaves	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Triangular shaped fern-like leaves• Covered in soft hairs
STEMS	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reddish or purple blotches along stems• Stiff white hairs	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Green stem, less conspicuous reddish or purple spots• Stems with ridges and fuzzy hairs	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Smooth, hairless stems• Reddish or purple spots and blotches along stems	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ribbed stems• Green stem, sometimes with purple at joints, but never blotchy	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Green stem with reddish or purple lengthwise streaks• Stiff white hairs	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Green ribbed stem• Fuzzy hairs on stem
FLOWERS	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large umbrella-shaped white flower cluster• Flowerheads can be up to approx. 1.5 m across	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rounded white flower.• Flowerheads can be up to approx. 0.5 m across	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rounded, umbrella-shaped white flower clusters	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rounded, umbrella-shaped white flower clusters	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rounded, generally globe-like white flower clusters	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dense white flower clusters with a flat top, black dot the in center of flowerhead• Bracts under the flowerhead

REFERENCES

- [Metro Vancouver Best Management Practices - Giant Hogweed](#)
- [Metro Vancouver Best Management Practices - Poison Hemlock](#)
- [Metro Vancouver Best Management Practices - Wild Chervil](#)
- [Capital Region Invasive Species Program - Giant Hogweed](#)

- [King County - Wild Chervil Identification and Control](#)
- [Jefferson County Noxious Weed Control Board - Poison Hemlock](#)
- [Oregon Noxious Weed Control Program - Giant Hogweed Comparison](#)
- [Ontario - Weed Identification Guide for Ontario Crops](#)

- [Nova Scotia - Plants That May Be Mistaken for Giant Hogweed](#)
- [Maine Department of Agriculture - Giant Hogweed Identification](#)
- [Michigan State University - Poison Hemlock Identification and Control](#)
- [Penn State Extension - Is it Poison Hemlock or Wild Chervil?](#)