giant reed *(Arundo donax)*

- Introduced from western Asia, north Africa and southern Europe as an ornamental.
- Deciduous, perennial grass reaching 20 feet tall, with corn-like stems and leaves.
- Dried grass remains standing through the winter.
- Flower a very large plume at the tips of the stems, with infertile seeds.
- Spread by creeping rhizomes, rooting of fallen stems and movement of rhizome fragments by machinery or water.
- Invades urban areas, roadsides, stream sides, and forest edges.


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