

CUT BROOM IN BLOOM!

Scotch Broom is an invasive alien plant taking over huge areas of the Pacific Northwest. Broom spreads rapidly and densely, choking out native species. A single plant can produce 18,000 seeds that last in the soil 30-50 years. It is a fire hazard and is toxic to animals and the soil. Broom will take over fields, pastures, meadows and farms, and can prevent reforestation. Broom seriously harms forestry, farming, tourism, our ecosystems and our health.

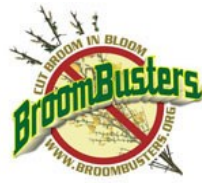
Cut Broom in Bloom while its energy is in its flowers in May and early June. Cut at ground level. Don't pull.

- **Use a long handled lopper.** Cut broom at **ground level**. It will die in the summer's dry heat. If the broom is too big, cut off the manageable branches, including the low stems in the grass. Big broom dies easily. Pull out very young broom. If you want to cut on roads, contact us first for **MoT** rules.
- **Do not disturb the soil** as disturbance causes more seeds to germinate. Protect grasses and ground covers. Plant grass, native plants or trees.
- **Go after the advancing edge and light infestations first.** When you see a few plants alone, cut them first. Work towards the denser areas. Do not let new infestations get started or spread. At least cut off the flowers before seed pods form (June).
- **To dispose of broom.** On private land, take to the dump, compost, or burn. After seedpods form, be careful not to spread seeds. Pile in infested area to burn in fall or let compost. Along trails, push cut broom under the shade of trees. In some towns, pickup or chipping MAY be possible but must be prearranged. Email us.

Broombusters is a totally volunteer organization. We invite you to join our efforts in May and June. It is lots of fun! A real community builder. Cut at your own risk.

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www.broombusters.org info@broombusters.org
250-752-4816



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