



Shelter in Yard Tips and Tasks: Broom Control & Removal



Scotch, French, Spanish, and Portuguese broom are invasive, non-native plants that bloom all over the county this time of year. Efforts are continuous to remove plants and prevent spread throughout the region.



These four brooms have invaded over one million acres in California. The showy flowers produce thousands of seeds that build up in the soil over time, creating dense thickets that obliterate entire plant and animal communities.

It displaces native plant and forage species, and makes reforestation difficult. It is a strong competitor and can dominate a plant community, forming dense monospecific stands.

Tips for safe removal to not spread seeds everywhere:

- Drag cut broom on top of tarps across property to street pile
- Use green bins as much as can fit
- Do not mulch or put in chipper stacks as it will spread seeds everywhere
- Remove the whole plant, including roots to prevent regrowth



For more resources, visit our [Shelter in Yard](#) page on the [Santa Clara Council FireSafe Council](#) website.