

SAVE THE DATE

March 3, 2019

Annual Portola Valley Town Broom Pull

Sponsored by the Portola Valley Conservation Committee

Please join the Portola Valley Conservation Committee, community volunteers and Scout troops and spend a couple of hours pulling this invasive weed from public right-of-ways and lands.

Meet at 9:00 AM at the Historic Schoolhouse – we will be done by noon.

Bring friends and neighbors – it's a fun way to contribute a little muscle power and tackle this problem as a team
Community service hours are provided for this activity

Alternate (rain) date: March 10

Please bring water and gloves and wear long sleeves and close-toed shoes

We will provide tools and refreshments!

Did you know that Broom is:

- Highly invasive
- Flammable
- One mature plant can produce 10,000 seeds per season and can live up to 20 years
- The seeds can germinate even after 60+ years
- Seed pods can burst with enough force to fling seeds many feet away
- Outcompetes and chokes out native vegetation
- Poisonous to large domestic animals and makes pastures impenetrable
- It re-sprouts from the roots (pull it out by the roots, when the soil is wet and with a weed wrench)
- Impossible to easily remove once the soil is dry

French Broom

Genista monspessulana



By Calibas - Own work, GFDL, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=3470934>

The yellow flowers may look and smell pretty for a few weeks, but French Broom is one of our nastiest invasive local shrubs. It spreads quickly, choking out both natives and other desirable plants and it is very flammable. It is especially a problem in our Open Space Preserves.