

## Why is Broom a Problem?

- Fire danger—very combustible.
- Spreads very quickly. Each plant has as many as 18,000 seeds.
- Seeds live more than 30 years.
- Broom plants crowd out native species.
- Often toxic to livestock, if eaten.
- Dense stands harm wildlife habitat.
- A tough allergy for many people.

There's more.



Image by David Welton (2021)

These pretty yellow flowers are NOT worth the cost!



Image by David Welton (2021)

## Help us Doom the Broom!

Are you ready to work together with others to get rid of scotch broom on our island?

Caring for our home—together—in community.

Become a Whidbey Broom Doomer!

## Project Sponsors

In his 2015 letter to the world, Pope Francis called us to work together to repair and restore our damaged earth. The Green Team, through this project,<sup>1</sup> invites all to care about our common home and each other.



St. Hubert Church / Green Team

For over 25 years, Goosefoot Community Fund has stewarded the natural and built environment in Bayview. We are pleased to partner on this effort that combines environmental stewardship and community building.



[goosefoot.org](https://goosefoot.org)

[sthubertchurch.org](https://sthubertchurch.org)

<sup>1</sup>This is a pilot project of the Laudato Si Movement (LSM) Washington Chapter.

Scan the code with your phone camera to connect to <https://archseattle.org/events/laudato-si-movement-monthly-meetings/>



## Caring for our Common Home

Let's work together to eradicate scotch broom on South Whidbey Island



Image by David Welton (2021)

Become part of a community effort to eradicate this invasive, noxious weed

## How Did Broom Come Here?

### *How did the problem get so big?*

People first brought broom here in the 19th century as an ornamental plant. It was later used for erosion control. Much of the planting along roads and highways came from good intention for erosion control before we learned the full, negative impact of the plant in our area and climate. By then, the plants were well-established.

Today, the infestation of broom affects many areas in Washington and beyond. It is classified as a Class B Noxious Weed in our state.

People have tried many things to get rid of the broom. It takes perseverance. Working with natural systems helps.

We can do it. We know how to do this.

Let's face this together as a community.



Image by Gary Olson

A truck load of broom from 2025's work party in Bayview.

## Cut Broom in Bloom!

This slogan, from BroomBusters on Vancouver Island, BC, is the first key to eradicate broom

- When blooming, the plant's energy is toward making seeds.
- Cutting it at (or below) ground level, before seeds come, stops that plant from producing.
- We don't disturb the soil and activate seeds already there. Fewer plants next year.

Simple tools are all we need:

- Loppers
- Hand clippers
- Small hand saws

Learn more here from BroomBusters.org:

Scan the code with your phone camera to connect to <https://www.broombusters.org/how-to-cut-broom/>



### Disposing of cut broom

Spread it out. Let it dry and then chip it or cut it in pieces

You can take it to the land fill bagged. But that's not the best option.

We will have collection locations during our work party week. Henry Tree Service will come and chip it all.

## Being Part of the Solution

### 1. Tackle broom plants at home.

Look for broom on your property and in your neighborhood.

When the pretty yellow flowers come, take the plant out by cutting at or slightly below ground level.

### 2. Join us for work parties in April.

Come with loppers, gloves, eye protection, water and enthusiasm to locations on Bayview Rd, Coles Rd, and along Highway 525 between them.

- Sunday, April 19: 1–5 PM
- Wednesday, April 22: 11AM–3PM
- Saturday, April 25: 10AM–2PM

Scan the code with your phone to sign up for the day(s) that work for you. We'll send you an email with the location..



Image by Gary Olson

Volunteer Steve Byler at the 2025 work party.