

# INVASIVE SPECIES



## **GORSE** **SCOTCH BROOM** **PAMPAS GRASS**

Invasive species are defined by Oregon Statute as “non-native organisms that cause economic or environmental harm and are capable of spreading to areas of the state.”

The City of Brookings would like to request property owners survey their property and remove any invasive species. Once introduced and established, invasive species have the potential to transform ecosystems and many cannot be eradicated completely making the invasion itself irreversible. Attempts to restore damaged areas can be extensive and expensive. Large clumps also prevent property access and are a fire hazard.

## PREVENTION

Infestations develop easily when soil is disturbed, so avoid this as much as possible. Plant competitive species in susceptible areas to provide shade and inhibit germination of gorse, scotch broom and grass seeds.

## CONTROL & MANAGEMENT

Pull seedlings when the soil is wet. Avoid disturbing soil by placing feet beside plant while pulling, and tamping down afterwards. To reduce re-growth, cut before bloom and before seeds-set. Larger plants and those growing on rock should be cut at or below ground surface with Pulaski and root clumps removed. For grasses also remove the entire crown. For best results, promptly apply wood mulch, and revegetate with competitive plants. Monitor area and repeat for at least 5 years. Although not preferred, herbicides can be applied to gorse stumps or new shoots, as part of an integrated approach.

## DISPOSAL

Cuttings are extremely flammable, and large piles will leach toxins into the soil. If seeds are present, avoid spreading them by putting cut material in strong bags or on tarps in securely covered loads, and take to the landfill.

### **ORS 569.390 Owner or occupant to eradicate weeds.**

Each person, firm or corporation owning or occupying land within the district shall destroy or prevent the seeding on such land of any noxious weed within the meaning of ORS 569.360 to 569.495 in accordance with the declaration of the county court and by the use of the best means at hand and within a time declared reasonable and set by the court, except that no weed declared noxious shall be permitted to produce seed. [Formerly 570.535; 2011 c.597 §233]



For more information  
please contact the City of Brookings at  
541-469-1103 or [www.brookings.or.us](http://www.brookings.or.us).

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## Scotch Broom

Scotch Broom is an attractive evergreen shrub that grows up to 8 feet high and in spring is adorned with yellow pea-like flowers

that mature to flattened pods with dozens of seeds. Dried pods will crackle and pop in mid summer scattering seeds that establish quickly in disturbed areas allowing it to easily infest landscapes displacing native species.



## Gorse

Gorse is also an evergreen shrub with yellow pea-like flowers and looks very similar to Scotch Broom, but Gorse is heavily armored with rigid spines. Plants are shrubby and frequently form dense thickets. Peak blooms occur in Spring, seedpods are hairy 1/2 to 3/4 inch long, and brown when ripe. Mature pods burst, scattering seeds for several feet.



## English Ivy

English ivy is an invasive evergreen climbing vine and ground cover which chokes out plants, shrubs and trees. It spreads by runners as well as by seed. Remove vines and runners by pulling or mowing and removing clippings.



## Pampas and Jubata Grass

Pampas and Jubata Grass are perennial grasses growing 6 to 10 feet tall. Established plants are very competitive and threaten coastal ecosystems by crowding out native species. Seeds are spread by the flowering plumes. Proper removal and disposal are essential to prevent spreading seeds and re-sprouting. The saw-toothed leaves can also cause injury to humans.

## OTHER INVASIVE PLANTS BROOMS (SCOTCH, SPANISH & PORTUGUESE)

BUTTERFLY BUSH  
ENGLISH IVY

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL  
FALSE BROME

GARLIC MUSTARD

HIMALAYAN BLACKBERRY  
KNOTWEEDS

MEADOW KNAPWEED

PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE

REED CANARY GRASS

ST. JOHNSWORT

TANSY RAGWORT

YELLOW FLAG IRIS

