

Scotch Broom

(*Cytisus scoparius*)



Biology/
Ecology

Evergreen, perennial shrub with deep tap roots. Colonizes **disturbed sites** such as roadsides or deforested areas.

Does not survive well in shade.
Can cause skin irritation. Ticks are commonly found at the base of Scotch broom plants.

Mode of
Dispersal

Very **long-lived, large seeds** explode from pea-like pods and can travel on footwear, vehicle tires or via contaminated soil.

Removal
Techniques

- ✓ Wear gloves and long pants/sleeves!
- ✓ Best to **remove while in bloom**, before seeds form. Gently **pull smaller plants** when soil is moist removing as much of the root as possible. **Cut large plants below ground-level** minimizing soil disturbance, and damage cut stumps with an axe/saw.
- ✓ **Disposal:** Compost in dense piles in a shaded location.
- ✓ **Can re-sprout from stem tissue**, so check area for new shoots.



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English Holly

(*Ilex aquifolium*)



Biology/
Ecology

Evergreen, perennial shrub. with deep roots. Inhabits moist to dry sites and **survives well in shade.**
Caution: berries toxic to humans.

Mode of
Dispersal

Aggressive. Spreads clonally by lateral **runners and shoots**, or through dispersal of **berries** in soil or by animals and birds.

Removal
Techniques

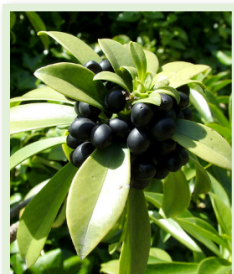
- ✓ Wear gloves, protective eyewear and long pants/sleeves!
- ✓ **Dig up or cut plants as low to the ground as possible.** Remove entire root where possible, minimizing soil disturbance.
- ✓ **Disposal:** Compost in dense piles in a shaded location.
- ✓ **Likely to re-sprout from stem tissue**, revisit cut plants to check for and cut off any new shoots.



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Daphne/Spurge Laurel

(*Daphne laureola*)



Biology/
Ecology

Evergreen, perennial shrub with tap root. **Survives well in shade.** Seeds are long-lived if berries allowed to ripen.

Caution: All parts including vegetative matter, berries and sap are poisonous. May cause skin and respiratory irritation.

Mode of
Dispersal

Large berries containing seeds are dispersed by birds and other wildlife. Infested areas may become densely overgrown if seeds allowed to form and drop.

Removal
Techniques

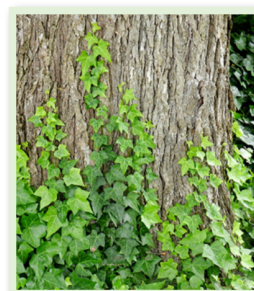
- ✓ Wear gloves, protective eyewear, and long pants/sleeves!
- ✓ Best to **remove before berries form.** Dig out fully, or cut stems below ground level to prevent re-sprouting.
- ✓ **Disposal:** Compost in dense piles in a shaded location. Do not burn. Kill berries by soaking in covered bucket of water for extended time.
- ✓ Cut plants **can re-sprout**; check for new shoots.



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English Ivy

(*Hedera helix*)



Biology/
Ecology

Evergreen, perennial vine. Plants root on nodes of the vines; climb and weaken trees. **Survives well in shade.** **Caution: Sap may cause skin irritation.**

Mode of
Dispersal

Vines root at nodes. Plants produce dark purple berries that are dispersed by birds.

Removal
Techniques

- ✓ Wear gloves and long pants/sleeves!
- ✓ Remove plants by **digging** as much root as possible If vines are growing around trees, **cut a 1m section around tree trunks** and leave plants to die back.
- ✓ **Disposal:** Compost in dense piles in a shaded location. Check that vines to not re-root. Cover piles with a tarp, or bury deeply and completely underground.



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