

NEWS RELEASE

www.parksville.ca
April 21, 2016

Broombusters Parksville Saturday - May 14

City of Parksville Council is working with the Broombusters Invasive Plant Society to host the biggest broombusting event of the year in Parksville on **Saturday, May 14 from 10 am to 12.30 pm**. We hope you will join Mayor and Council for a few hours to help eradicate this noxious plant.

Scotch broom will invade any open space; evident at the Parksville interchanges. For the past eight years, Broombuster volunteers have worked with the City to get rid of broom and stop its spread. Each year, efforts begin mid-April.

Volunteers on May 14 should gather at the old Parksville Train Station on Alberni Highway at 10 am where we will help to clear the broom at the entrance to Parksville, near the train station and on Alberni Highway. Please wear good shoes, bring gloves and loppers will be provided. It's easy, fun and we get to *Cut the Bloomin' Broom!*

There will be about six other cuts in Parksville and probably twenty other cuts in Oceanside between now and the end of May. You are welcome to join any of them. The schedule is posted on the Broombusters website at www.broombusters.org. If residents are not able to make the Parksville event, there are many other opportunities to help out.

Parksville Mayor Marc Lefebvre said, "Please consider joining members of Council on May 14 to cut broom. Broombusters has proven you can stop the spread of broom and not with expensive machinery or high expense but with dedicated volunteers helping to cut broom in bloom."

Joanne Sales, Broombusters founder said, "In 2015, 650 volunteers recorded cutting broom for 3,438 hours in over 98 community cuts in Campbell River, Comox Valley, Port Alberni, Oceanside, Nanaimo, North Cowichan and the District of Highlands. So much has been accomplished yet so much needs to be done." She also said, "It is especially important to keep broom out of our wild areas, especially where the forest has been cleared as broom prevents the re-growth of forests."

- Join Council on Saturday, May 14 from 10 am to 12.30 pm
- Meet at the Parksville Train Station
- Wear good shoes, bring gloves and loppers will be provided

For more information:

Deb Tardiff, Communications Officer 250 954-3073 Joanne Sales, Broombusters Invasive Plant Society 250 752-4816