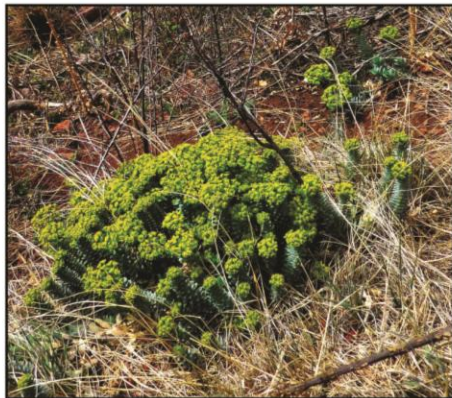


# Forest Health

## HOW TO SAFELY REMOVE MYRTLE SPURGE

Myrtle spurge, or *Euphorbia myrsinites*, is a “List A” noxious weed, and the Colorado Noxious Weed Act (C.R.S. 35-5.5-101-119) requires its eradication. Hand pulling and digging are the most effective methods used to control this plant. Myrtle spurge contains a toxic, milky sap which can cause severe skin irritations, including blistering. This plant is poisonous if ingested, causing nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Wearing gloves, long sleeves, shoes, and eye protection is highly recommended when in contact with myrtle spurge, as all plant parts are considered poisonous.

<http://www.bouldercounty.org/apps/newsroom/templates/bc12.aspx?articleid=3964&zoneid=6>



Large and small myrtle spurge



Toxic sap

*Wash tools and clothing with detergent.  
If spurge has gone to seed, bag and send  
it to the landfill.*

Wildlands Restoration Volunteers removed spurge on many lots in Pine Brook Hills. We thank them.

We can use their safe method to remove spurge on our lots, and we can volunteer to help neighbors who cannot do it.

Contact [forest.health.bb@gmail.com](mailto:forest.health.bb@gmail.com) to join a cooperative effort to eradicate spurge in Pine Brook Hills.

Glasses  
Long sleeves  
Long PVC-coated gloves  
Gardening knife (hori-hori)



Plunge the knife next to the root.  
Lever the root up and out, get all you can.  
For really big plants use a potato fork.