

Remove invasive myrtle spurge before it goes to seed

Myrtle spurge is well established in some parts of Pine Brook Hills and it is spreading to other areas in our community. Dense colonies are very difficult to eradicate. Their mature plants produce many seeds that spread this **highly invasive illegal noxious weed** to other areas. Small isolated plants are easy to find and remove before they produce more seeds.

In early Springtime spurge shows bright yellow flowers that are clearly visible before the other plants grow up around them. The soil is damp and soft, easy to dig. We can prevent establishment of new intractable colonies if we inspect our lots and remove small plants.



Dense spurge in early May



FH-BB has tools and protective gear to loan, and we teach proper safe removal and disposal methods. Spurge is toxic.



Thank you WLRV

Wildlands Restoration Volunteers work in Colorado and southern Wyoming. They removed dense spurge from many lots in PBH. **We can do this ourselves.**

Spurge facts

- All parts of a myrtle spurge plant are toxic.
- It is a Colorado Department of Agriculture List A Species invasive noxious weed -- it is illegal, myrtle spurge poses an economic and environmental threat to our state.
- It is a perennial evergreen that is allelopathic (chemically inhibits other plants).
- It displaces native plants and reduces forage for animals.
- Seeds project 15 feet and last 8 years in the soil.

- Removing plants before they distribute seed is effective control.
- Digging out small plants is easy.
- Prevent regeneration by getting at least 4 inches of root.
- Send bagged spurge to landfill, do not compost.

Read more at the HOA website <https://www.pinebrookhills.org/> > HOA > Forest Health - BB, and Google "myrtle spurge." To report spurge anywhere or to join the effort to keep and restore natural flora in our community contact forest.health.bb@gmail.com.



Spurge seeds in early June



Trophy spurging is a fun sport.