

Western Redbud

Cercis occidentalis

Pea Family, *Fabaceae*



Fluttering delicately in the breezes of coastal canyons, the rounded, heart shaped, smooth, glossy leaves of this little tree evoke serenity and grace. The lovely magenta pea shaped blooms, growing along the stems, appear from March through May. It is always a surprise to find this brilliantly colored gift of nature in the wild.



Western Redbud

California Indians peeled young branches to be used in baskets and bark strips were woven into design elements.

A great plant for the first sign of spring. Long lived, pretty all year. Can be pruned as a single trunk or left as a multi trunk small tree. Should be underplanted with ground cover.

Mar–May • Ma, So, Na, Me

2–6 m, 6–18 ft

Spanish Broom

Spartium junceum

Pea Family, *Fabaceae*



Spanish Broom

A “dirty” word among wildflower enthusiasts, this invasive, nasty weed shows its yellow pea like flowers in almost any disturbed area. Obnoxious colonies of the spreading shrub can be seen overrunning whole hillsides which were once covered with native vegetation. The nearly leafless stems and the yellow blooms are easily recognized and should be eliminated in the wild. Cal-IPC rates it A in impact and B in invasiveness. Check Resources for more information.

Other similar alien invasive weeds are French Broom, Scotch Broom, and Gorse.

Apr–Jun • Ma, So, Me

to 3 m, 10 ft