

## Nature's gifts



**Volunteers in the Nature Area remove French broom.**

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The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is a great source of information about protecting endangered native plants. On Sept. 28, 2021,

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the CNPS sponsored AB 223 into law providing new protections for the beautiful dudleya species that are being collected from our rocky coastal cliffs. Plant poachers have been illegally collecting thousands of these succulent plants and selling them across the world via social media. Varieties of dudleya succulents are in danger of extinction yet are very popular in drought resistant gardens. Please do not purchase dudleya via the web unless you determine that the plants are legal to own.

The California Native Plant Society is a nonprofit organization working to save and celebrate California's native plants and habitats via science, advocacy, education and horticulture – [www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org).

If you are interested in helping clear invasive plants, volunteer hours at the Nature Area are Sundays between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. All are welcome; volunteers under the age of 10 must bring a parent with them. Twice a year the Nature Area hosts a Sunday festival for the public. We are hoping to resume these festival days when the dangers from COVID subside.

My wish for you all is that “Nature touches you today and every day.”

*Friends of the Orinda Nature Area is a nonprofit dedicated to environmental education and conservation of the 18-acre Nature Area, which the Orinda Union School District owns. For information, visit [www.fwrna.org](http://www.fwrna.org).*



**French broom that took over a field at the Nature Area.**