Save Conejo Valley from Puncture Vine

Flowers & Leaves
Look for small yellow flowers, open in the morning, between April and October. Each leaf, comprised of 4 to 8 pairs of opposite leaflets, is 1/4 to 1/2 inch long and is covered with fine hairs.

aka Goathead
*Tribulus terrestris*

With its sharp, thorny burs that pierce tires, paws, and shoes, PUNCTUREVINE IS THE LEADING CAUSE OF BICYCLE FLAT TIRES. It is an annual weed typically found in sunny, dry areas. Usually flat, the stems can be nearly erect where growing in competition for light.

Mature Plant
The mature puncturevine weed is a matlike plant up to 10 feet in diameter with stems radiating from the crown. There are 1/4 inch, 5-petaled, yellow flowers and multi-pointed sharp burs.

Seeds
The spiny seedpods often lie hidden under the plant. Mature seedpods break apart into 5 burs, each containing 2–4 seeds, which are viable for up to 7 years.

Migration
Puncturevine burs embed themselves in tires, shoes, feet, fur, and clothing to travel to new locations where the cycle begins again.

Removal Methods

**Must Haves**
Work Gloves
Garden Shears
Garbage Bags
Whisk Broom

**Small infestations**
Hoe or dig plants in the spring before they can set seed, cutting below the crown to prevent regrowth.

**Mature, seed-bearing plants**
Wear gloves. Gather the stems into a bunch, cut plant taproot just below the crown, bag and dispose of the cuttings and dried burs.

**Be proactive**
Crowd out the opportunistic weed by providing good competition from favorable plants where possible.