Avoid These Flammable Plants

While these plants are very pretty, they are extremely flammable!

French broom
Genista monspessulana
Scotch broom
Cytisus scoparius
Spanish broom
Spartium junceum
Sweet broom
Genista stenopetala

Common Juniper
Juniperus communis

Pampas grass & Jubata Grass
Cortaderia selloana, Cortaderia jubata

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Other Flammable Plants to Avoid
The following are susceptible to burning, due to rough or peeling bark, production of large amounts of litter, vegetation that contains oils, resin, wax or pitch, large amounts of dead material in the plant, or plantings with a high dead-to-live fuel ratio:

Trees:
- Acacia
- Larch
- Arbor-Vitae
- Manna Gum Eucalyptus
- Bald Cypress
- Monterey Pine
- Blue Gum Eucalyptus
- Pepper Tree
- Cedar
- Pine
- Cryptomeria
- Spruce
- Cypress
- Sugar Gum Eucalyptus
- Douglas Fir
- Tamarix
- Fir
- Yew
- Hemlock
-

Shrubs:
- Buckwheat
- Hopseed Bush
- California Sagebrush
- Juniper
- Chamies, Greasewood
- Red Shanks
- Coyote Brush
- Rosemary
- Scotch/French/Spanish/Sweet Broom

Other:
- Algerian Ivy
- Deer Grasses
- Pampas Grasses
- Bamboo
- Fountain Grasses
- Pride of Madeira
- Black Sage
- From Don't Plant a Pest for the Bay Area, California Invasive Plant Council; www.cal-ipc.org/www.plantright.org; and Fire Wise Native Plants, City of Oakland Watershed Program www.oaklandpw.com/creeks/fireplants.htm

Consider these recommended alternative plants for your garden:

San Diego sedge
Carex spicata

Cape thatching reed
Eligia tectorum

Winter Jasmine—yellow flowers in winter
Cornelian-Cherry Dogwood—yellow flowers in spring, purple berries in fall
Golden Currant—yellow flowers spring, edible berries for jams and jellies
Jerusalem Sage—yellow flowers in spring and summer
Shrub Hypericum—yellow flowers summer and fall
San Diego Sedge—yellow grass-like flowers in spring
Cape Thatching Reed—brown flowers in summer/fall
Bigelow’s Bear Grass—white flowers in summer