

JOIN TODAY.



Please join the *Sonoran Desert Weedwackers* to protect our desert. The *Weedwackers* work three times each month, throughout the year. On the second and fourth **Wednesdays** the group hikes three miles into **steep and difficult terrain**. The third Saturdays hikes are shorter distances and in less difficult locations. Join us as often as you would like – once a month or once a year. *It's all good – everyone can make a difference!*

January – February and November – December

8:00 a.m.

March – May and September – October

7:00 a.m.

June – August

6:00 a.m.

For more information on this month's weedwacking location contact:

Pima County
Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation
Environmental Education

520-724-5375

or

eeducation@pima.gov



You can help control the spread of invasive species in the Sonoran Desert. If undetected, buffelgrass will quickly transform the landscape. Please take care to carefully identify weed species and not accidentally remove desired native species.

Help Your Neighbors

Start by setting a good example by removing invasive grasses from your yard. Then encourage your neighbors and friends to do the same.

Pima County Code regulates buffelgrass through a progressive enforcement process in unincorporated areas.

For roadways, washes, and parks in Tucson and other areas, call (520) 791-3109 or email buffelgrass@tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org

For buffelgrass and other cleanup projects on roadways in unincorporated Pima County, contact Pima County Adopt-a-Roadway at (520) 724-6410 or email Isabel.Noel@pima.gov



Richard Elías, Chairman, District 5 • Ally Miller, District 1 • Ramón Valadez, District 2
Sharon Bronson, District 3 • Stephen W. Christy, District 4

PIMA COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
Chuck Huckelberry

NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS AND RECREATION
Chris Cawein, Director

3500 West River Road, Tucson, AZ 85741 • (520) 724-5000 • www.pima.gov/nrpr

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

SONORAN DESERT WEEDWACKERS

*Working to conserve
the Sonoran Desert*

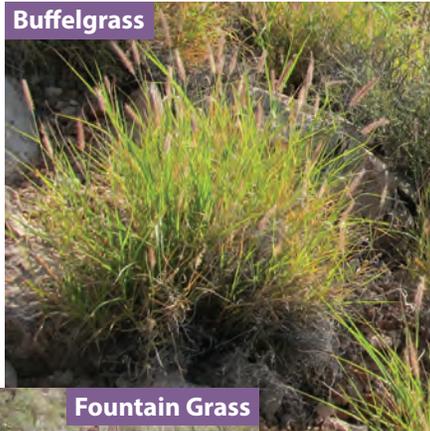


CONTROL

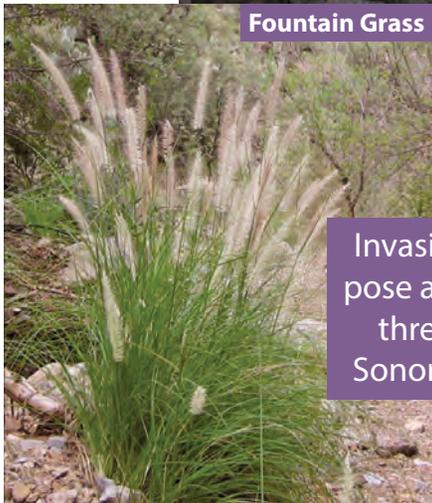
Invasive species threaten native plant and wildlife populations in the Sonoran Desert. Buffelgrass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*) and fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*) crowd out native plants and can fuel devastating fires in an ecosystem that is not fire adapted. Without your help, saguaros and other signature plants and animals of the Sonoran desert are in jeopardy of being lost from this landscape.

Know the invasives.

Buffelgrass



Fountain Grass



Invasive species pose a significant threat to the Sonoran Desert.

CONSERVATION

The *Sonoran Desert Weedwackers* are an all-volunteer group dedicated to manually removing infestations of buffelgrass, fountain grass, and other invasive species found along roadways, ridge tops, and washes in the Tucson Mountains.

Before the Weedwackers



After the Weedwackers



Weedwacker volunteers typically meet at chosen locations, sometimes taking a short van ride to a nearby work site. Seasoned volunteers and Pima County staff provide grass classes that cover plant identification and safe removal techniques. After manually removing infestations, plants are carefully placed side-by-side (like a thatched roof) and rocked to help contain seeds and plants until they decompose.

DEDICATION



Doing Nothing **IS** a Decision

Weedwacking is hard work but the benefits are well worth the effort! Volunteers should be in good physical condition and able to hike on uneven terrain. Hats, hiking boots or sturdy shoes, sunglasses, sunscreen, and lots of water are highly recommended.

Since 2000, the *Weedwackers* have successfully eliminated major infestations (1000s of acres and tons of invasive grasses) by working together to protect and conserve Tucson Mountain Park. They also teach individuals how to protect their homes and neighborhoods.



Want to know more? What's going on locally or how to identify buffelgrass, go to:

www.buffelgrass.org