



Partnering

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**For immediate release**

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## PAG coordinates volunteer effort to remove buffelgrass

Pima Association of Governments is organizing a regionwide volunteer effort to remove buffelgrass, an invasive plant, on Saturday, March 1.

People who are interested in volunteering may visit [www.buffelgrass.org](http://www.buffelgrass.org) or [www.PAGnet.org](http://www.PAGnet.org) to register for one of the various clean up events that are scheduled.

Buffelgrass, which is rapidly spreading over large areas throughout the region, poses a serious fire threat to the desert and urgent action is needed to stem this threat.

Over the past year, a small number of volunteers worked to remove buffelgrass in limited areas, mostly within parks. Still, you can see buffelgrass along roadsides, in washes and particularly in the Catalina foothills.

The March 1 Buffelgrass Eradication Day was established by PAG's Regional Council to raise awareness of the threat and to remove as much buffelgrass as possible on a single day. "This is the year that the Tucson region needs to address this threat head-on and turn the tide," said Dennis Dickerson, the event coordinator and PAG's environmental planning coordinator. "If you love the desert that surrounds us, action is needed now because this weed will destroy the desert environment that makes Tucson so special."

For more information about buffelgrass, please visit [www.buffelgrass.org](http://www.buffelgrass.org).

*Pima Association of Governments is an association of local, state and tribal governments with a mission to build consensus among its members and the public on regional planning for transportation, air quality and water quality. Please visit [www.PAGnet.org](http://www.PAGnet.org) for more information.*

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