



Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination Center  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Join the UA softball team to remove buffelgrass from parks and public lands—Saturday, Jan. 28

Buffelgrass is a wildfire waiting to happen. Buffelgrass invasion is threatening to transform the mostly fireproof and diverse Sonoran Desert into a flammable and impoverished savanna, affecting both natural and urban areas. On Jan. 28, hundreds of volunteers will join the fight against this growing environmental problem for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Beat Back Buffelgrass Day (To register, visit [www.buffelgrass.org](http://www.buffelgrass.org)).

“This year we will again have the support of Coach Mike Candrea and the University of Arizona’s Women’s Softball Team,” said Lindy Brigham, executive director of the Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination Center. “Each of the 20 LadyCats will be recruiting 25 friends to participate in the volunteer day (500 participants).”

The Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination Center has organized Beat Back Buffelgrass Day since 2010. This year, SABCC is the lead organizer with collaboration from the Pima Association of Governments ([www.PAGRegion.com](http://www.PAGRegion.com)), Tucson Electric Power ([www.tep.com](http://www.tep.com)), and other partners.

The Boy Scouts again are providing critical leadership, and area high schools are recruiting volunteers. The high school with the most volunteers pulling buffelgrass will enjoy buffelgrass bragging rights for 2012. So far, Sahuarita High School, Walden Grove High School, Marana High School, and Mountain View High School have committed to the competition.

“We cannot let this invasive grass destroy our unique Sonoran Desert environment and quality of life,” Brigham said. “Together we can reduce the threat and save the Sonoran Desert for future generations.”

Individuals and groups can volunteer at more than two dozen locations in and around Tucson by registering at [www.buffelgrass.org](http://www.buffelgrass.org).

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