

# Vocabulary

---

**ALIEN** – A plant or animal that does not belong in the area it is found.

**BIOLOGICAL CONTROL** – reduction in numbers or elimination of pest organisms by introducing parasites or diseases.

**CANAL** – An artificial waterway or artificially improved river used for travel, shipping, drainage or irrigation.

**CHEMICAL CONTROL** – The use of pesticides and herbicides to control pests and undesirable plant species.

**COMPETITION** – Active demand by two or more organisms or kinds of organisms for some environmental resource (such as food, water, shelter or space) in short supply.

**DISTURBED AREA** – An area where vegetation, soil and/or hydrology have been significantly altered, thereby making a wetland determination difficult.

**ECOSYSTEM** – The interaction of the biological community (all living things) and the physical environment (Water, Air, Minerals).

**ENDANGERED SPECIES** – A species of plant or animal that throughout a significant portion of its range is in danger of extinction. There are fourteen endangered species in Everglades National Park.

**ENDEMIC** – Species found only in a particular region or habitat.

**ERADICATION** – The complete destruction of every species within a population.

**EXOTIC** – Not native; or something that did not grow in this area before humans brought it from another location.

**EXTINCT** – A species that has vanished from existence.

**HABITAT** – The place where a plant or animal lives; an organism's home. It takes up as much as an organism needs to find its food, water, shelter, and space in the proper arrangement.

**HERBICIDE** – A chemical that destroys plants or stops their growth.

**INDIGENOUS** – A species that is found in the place where it originated.

**INTRODUCED** – Bring something new to an environment.

**INVASIVE** – Spreading aggressively into an area.

**MECHANICAL CONTROL** – Control of pests by physical means such as the use of screens or row covers.

**NATIVE** – A species that belongs in the area that it is found; species that grew naturally in an area before humans.

**NATURAL ENEMY** – Living organisms found in nature that kill, weaken, or reduce the reproductive potential of other organisms.

**NON-NATIVE** – Species that has been introduced to an area by humans; does not occur naturally in the area that it is found.

**PHYSICAL CONTROL** – Control of pests by physical means such as heat, cold, sound waves, etc.

**PRESCRIBED BURN** – Is a fire management technique of purposeful burning to reduce buildup of flammable products.

**RIVER** – A large natural stream of water (larger than a creek).

**SEED DISPERSAL** – The method that a plant uses to spread its seeds for growth, either by wind, water currents, birds and mammals, or by simply dropping the seeds.

**STRATEGIES** – An elaborate and systematic plan of action.

**SUCCESSION** – The gradual change in an ecosystem brought about by replacement of one community by another until a stable climax is established.

**SURVEY** – A detailed critical inspection; the act of looking, seeing or observing.

**THREATENED** – Likely in the near future to become endangered.

**TREATMENT** – The techniques or actions applied in a specified situation.