



Saguaro National Park News Release

For Immediate Release

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Saguaro National Park - East Seeking Volunteers for Weed Pulling Project

On Saturday, March 8th, Saguaro National Park will host a work project to remove a patch of buffelgrass, an invasive non-native plant which threatens the Sonoran Desert. Interested volunteers should meet at the park's Rincon Mountain Visitor Center (Saguaro East) at 8:00 am. Please park in the Administration parking lot (first right turn after entering the park, follow to parking area just south of the visitor center parking lot). From the visitor center, park staff and volunteers will carpool a short distance, and proceed to hike off trail to the work site. Common desert hazards (heat, cacti, wildlife) should be expected. No experience necessary, but please wear sturdy shoes, long pants and a hat. Bring plenty of water and gloves (if you have them). Tools and gloves will be provided. Volunteers will be working with park staff and volunteers from one of our partner organizations, the Rincon Institute, a group whose mission is to protect the natural resources of Saguaro National Park East and its surrounding lands. We will conclude the day's efforts at 12:00 noon. Following the event, workers will share snacks and beverages behind the park's Natural Resources Building. If interested in volunteering, please sign-up by calling Bethany Hontz at 733-5187, or in person at the visitor center.

For more information about the park, or the Rincon Institute, visit these websites:

www.nps.gov/sagu

www.rinconinstitute.org