WHAT ARE INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES?

Plants not native to the Sonoran Desert whose presence causes or is likely to cause economic, environmental or human harm. See the region’s most concerning invasive plants in the region by visiting bit.ly/desertdefenders

THE SONORAN DESERT IS NOT FIRE ADAPTED

Native vegetation is naturally sparse and can’t carry fire across the desert. Native plants are not equipped to endure wildfires or regenerate after burning. Today, wildfires are rapidly destroying the iconic Sonoran Desert.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Wildfires in the Sonoran Desert threaten the health and safety of humans and wildlife, damage infrastructure, destroy the landscape while devastating biodiversity. Can you imagine the desert without dazzling wildflowers and towering saguaros? WE NEED YOUR HELP! The time to act is now.

SOURCES

bit.ly/DesertInvaders
bit.ly/aznpisinvasive
bit.ly/30yrFire
bit.ly/3snrem5
Did you know in 2020, 82% of wildfires in Arizona were human-caused? This means that what we do in and around nature makes a difference. Put out campfires, prevent sparks while shooting and driving, be cautious when burning debris and don’t throw lit cigarettes out the window. Learn more at smokeybear.com

Non-native plants can grow so densely they completely cover the desert soil and provide fuel for wildfires. Decrease wildfire risk by planting natives, which create less fuel and can be a form of natural fire suppression. Learn more about native plants by visiting aznps.org.

DO YOU KNOW WHO TO CALL?

EVERY SECOND COUNTS! Report wildfires as soon as possible. Call 911 or 800.309.7081 for the Arizona Interagency Dispatch for wildland fires and risk incidents. Learn more about reporting wildfires at dffm.az.gov/fire/information

BECOME A DEFENDER

By helping map and remove invasive plant species from parks, preserves and other natural areas, we can decrease wildfire risk in our communities. BECOME A DESERT DEFENDER TODAY! Visit cazca.org to learn more.

BECOME A FIREWISE COMMUNITY!

Did you know you can reduce fire risk in your neighborhood? Learn more at dffm.az.gov/fire/prevention/firewise.