



# Invasive Species Workshop

## *Tuesday, June 29 @ 7:00 PM*

### *Savannah National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center*

The Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex is taking on a more proactive approach to dealing with exotic, invasive species, and we need the help of our volunteers and Friends Group. Our location next to one of the busiest ports along the east coast makes the refuges within our Complex prime candidates for the establishment of exotic, invasive species. The best approach to dealing with this menace is through early detection and then employing a rapid response to prevent the pest from becoming established.

*Cogongrass (Imperata cylindrical)*

Recently, the Complex received a grant designed to involve volunteers and Friends Groups in the development and implementation of an Early Detection/Rapid Response approach to invasive species. Since we do not have such a program in place, the possibilities for involvement are many; including, but not limit to determining the best direction for the program, producing educational and outreach materials, and implementing control methods. The first step is to establish a steering committee of volunteers, Friends, and refuge staff to lead the way in developing a plan for the execution of the grant. The funds available should provide the means to establish a sustainable program to prevent establishment of exotic, invasive species on the Savannah Coastal Refuges and beyond.



*Chinese tallowtree (triadica sebifera)*



*Beach vitex (vitex rotundifolia)*

We invite all those interested in learning more about exotic, invasive species to join us for an informative workshop to be held Tuesday, June 29, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. Refuge Biologist Chuck Hayes and Refuge Manager Kimberly Hayes will conduct a presentation that will leave you with a good base of knowledge about this important wildlife threat and a better sense of what the public can do to help combat it. After the presentation, those interested in partnering with the Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex through this unique grant opportunity can learn more about how to get started.

Please RSVP to Refuge Ranger Amy Ochoa, either by email or phone, if you plan to attend.

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