

Manchester & O'Hara Waterway Pepper Busters

Call for Volunteers

Brazilian Pepper trees are an invasive species that pose a clear and present danger to our local environment. We are especially concerned with their intrusion into our mangrove areas. Pepper trees choke out mangroves and other indigenous species. Healthy mangroves are essential to the welfare and sustainability of our environment. You can help restore the mangroves by volunteering to help eradicate the Brazilian Peppers.

Pepper Busting volunteers are working in the state preserve area north of Hog Island and adjacent to the Manchester and O'Hara Waterways. Volunteers work under the authority of the Department of Environmental Protection (Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park and Aquatic Preserve Office).

The work is not easy. It involves manual labor: getting in a small boat, going out into the mangroves and getting dirty.

Please consider volunteering a few hours or a few days each month to help us kill the dreaded Pepper Trees. It is a worthy project that helps preserve the real Florida. If you think you might be interested, call (941 627-8053) or email (wckeller@earthlink.net) Coty Keller for more information on exactly what Pepper Busters do, and what you need to do to join us.