

## What do you think is the most important vegetation or invasive species-related issue for Captiva? (pre-ranking)

- Currently it's rabbits -- 29
- No opinion -- 18
- Australian pines -- 10
- Rabbits and iguanas -- 7
- Brazilian pepper -- 6
- Clear cutting of lots -- 5
- Controlling the rat population -- 4
- Wood peckers -- 2
- Iguanas -- 4
- Sea grapes -- 2
- Discouraging non-native plantings.
- preserve sea grass to preserve dunes
- Marsh bunnies and iguanas
- keep R/W clear of branches and sand in streets
- grass where grass never grew before. Succulents were everywhere especially on east side of Captiva Drive because they flourished with little rainfall.
- Having someone monitor numbers of species, i.e. iguanas, monitor lizards, etc, and implement program to control population with set guidelines. (like zero tolerance of monitor lizards).
- Planting of non-native shrubs and use of fertilization.
- Brazilian Pepper removal, rabbits, lizards
- Bufo toads, monitor lizards & iguanas.
- Invasive grasses
- rabbits, cane toads, iguanas
- Iguanas are beginning to be a concern. So are the number of rabbits eating vegetation. We should bring in feral cats to control the population. What island doesn't have cats? Captiva
- The proliferation of rabbits on Captiva is causing a significant environmental and economic cost.
- Nile monitor lizards. Although not an issue at present.
- Very concerned about iguanas and Cuban Knight Anoles
- Maintaining native look. We like palms.
- Rabbits! They are out of control. Until two years ago I never saw one on our property in decades, now they are everywhere and eating everything!
- RW Walsh Landscaping...the island is beginning to look like Disney!
- Humans
- invasive species of lizards, etc.
- Australian Pines and bunnies
- Non-native species
- Brazilian pepper, potato vine and pines
- Invasive fish
- Natural grass on the beach
- Removal of native barrier plants like mangrove, seagrape, etc
- destruction of mangroves
- Plain and simple.....LIBERALS
- Invasive plants

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- Enforcement of native species planting
- vegetation buffers
- I think that much of our island's beauty is the result of well planned installation of non-native plants. I wouldn't want it to become like the Ding Darling preserve which has concentrated on native plants.
- The issue of erosion and to protect the unique plant- and animal life.
- Preservation and care
- Maintaining a verdant environment is most important.
- Marsh rabbits, however they are native and not an invasive.
- being destroyed by overbuilding on South Seas Resort
- I don't know of any and frankly loved the Australian Pines.
- I think the restrictions on mangrove trimming is draconian. Keep the base, but they do not have to be high or wide.
- Vegetation (habitat) loss has driven bobcats away, thus more rats and marsh rabbits
- Untrained trimming and removal of mangroves and trees
- non-native manicured plantings
- Invasive species destroying native
- Tree removal and mangroves
- More grass is needed on Andy Rosse Ln
- All the invasive species and destroying native vegetation for building.
- Ban all use age of rodent poison harmful to wildlife that consume the rodents
- Removal of native trees.
- not sure what vegetation species are most invasive ...monitor and manage invasive and non-native
- This changes from year to year, but right now, it is probably the numerous rabbits and iguanas roaming the Island. Nature will take care of the rabbits with time as it did with the raccoons; however, the iguanas should be removed from the Island. They are very destructive to the native vegetation, are not indigenous to the area and have no enemies
- not enough native plants being used. too many exotic plants.
- Alligators and No-see-ums
- Unauthorized plantings
- Mangroves and sharks
- non-native species with no natural predators
- Areca palms blocking safe view from side streets off Captiva Drive
- scaevola and bunnies
- Brazilian pepper, air potato and other invasive vines, esp. morning glory vines.
- Invasion of unwanted animals
- Getting rid of no see unseen and rats
- Monitoring and eradicating invasive species.
- Any invasive species or vegetation will be a problem and have to be dealt with on a case by case basis
- Monitor Lizards and Iguanas
- Getting rid of invasive species
- Need to stay with native vegetation as much as possible.
- The destruction of vegetation resulting from the recent uncontrolled proliferation of the rabbit population.
- invasive species
- The old remaining pine trees along the beach especially

- Loss mangroves.
- Brazilian Pepper, although not as big a problem as before.
- Australian pines ...Brazilian Pepper...Rats and Rabbits

**If you had to name one of these as the most important issue in this group, which one would you choose? (post ranking)**

- Clear cutting of property -- 40
- Rabbit infestation -- 39
- Excessive removal of trees -- 25
- Iguanas -- 8
- Monitor lizards -- 5
- Non native plants
- monitor lizards will clear out all other species. Rabbits have taken over in absence of former species living here.
- Monitor lizards and iguanas. Noticed there's no mention of coyote ... they need to be monitored especially since they destroy turtle nests, etc.
- Monitor lizards & iguanas (& Bufo toads!)
- Humans feed these critters and find it entertaining, without any concern for the future of the island long after they have left.
- The rabbits although I believe a native species, have gotten out of hand. Organized trapping and removal as per South Seas Plantation program to trap and remove excessive raccoons years ago which was very successful.
- Rabbits killing / eating vegetation. They're everywhere and they seem to be most attracted to landscaped plantings. They are fearless and over-populated.
- Other invasive animals
- Clear cutting of lots is very important and Monitor lizards & iguanas
- iguanas, coyotes
- invasive species that may upset balance
- monitor lizards, iguanas and bunnies
- Clear cutting and rabbits
- vegetation removal
- Other invasive species...LIBERALS
- Control of gardens
- Mind your own business. Too many people trying to control others.
- invasive animals
- Unsure
- Many of the trees that are removed are non-native or they grow so fast in the sub tropical weather that annual trimming should almost be required. Most of the properties take care to re plant trees and shrubs for privacy anyway.
- Vegetation loss
- dangerous invasive species (snakes, cane toads, species that destroy natural, local species and helpful insects)
- rats, snakes, raccoons, rabbits
- Destruction of native habitat
- Invasive animal species

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- Land owners should work around their existing vegetation to preserve the habitat as much as possible. Rabbit lives matter.
- Iguanas
- It's a tie - monitor lizards and iguanas and tree removal.
- Ban rodent poison harmful to birds and other wildlife.
- Removal of the iguanas.
- invasive animals
- No see-ums and alligators
- Maintain native vegetation
- Reptiles
- Other invasive animal species Other invasive animal species
- Monitor lizards will ruin home values by reducing guests if allowed to go unchecked in future. Now is the time to act. Unlike clear cut lots, they affect every lot.
- rats
- Maintaining attractive, native vegetation always important.
- Invasive animal species.
- Rats and other invasive species.
- removal of vegetation
- invasive animal species
- Vegetation preservation
- Invasion of animals
- Invasive species
- Invasion of rats, rabbits and insects( especially no-see-ums) Get rid of them
- They are all pretty much equally important.
- Invasive animal species
- Rabbits and iguanas
- Again. Non issues
- Keep level of vegetation as much as possible
- Not sure
- All invasive animal species
- Raccoon prevalence at times
- Keeping native vegetation that does not need excessive water, fertilizer or pesticides.
- Monitor lizards and iguanas

**Do you have any additional comments about any of these issues?**

- restrict coyotes
- Identify unique native trees to be preserved during any development/redevelopment efforts
- The bobcat(s) usually help control the rabbits. Their habitat needs to be preserved.
- If one uses native plantings the need for fertilizer is eliminated.
- I was surprised to not find Bufo toads on your survey, as they are found on Captiva (live in greenery and flattened on the street).
- Rabbits are an immediate problem
- It is difficult to force people into rules concerning their private property. Perhaps education or more info up front before purchase is necessary
- I've yet to see a Monitor lizard

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- Bring back/introduce predators for the rabbits
- Captiva needs a clearer policy on protection of trees and clear-cutting of properties.
- Minimal property maintenance by rental property owners, including not removing invasive species, such as air potatoes.
- Obviously the tree removal issue has to be modified after a hurricane when many trees have been killed or destroyed or damaged beyond safety.
- Having had home on Captiva for decades the invasive species issue has grown out of control. Years ago the resort hired trappers to trap and remove the overabundance of raccoons that existed at the time, with great success. Perhaps something like that could be done for the rabbits, although I have no idea how or who pays for it.
- The charm of Captiva (after the Gulf and Sound) is the beautiful landscaping. Sanibel is ugly due to their tight restrictions on non-native vegetation. We should encourage/require a large amount of landscaping and not restrict species in areas not adjacent to the waterways.
- Don't know how to get rid of rabbits. Don't have a rifle and don't use poison
- I have several, but at this point I think this survey is so far off the reservation what's the point.
- Let's team up to get the rabbits out.
- Interesting species are fun to see - to a point.
- Lizards
- We've lost all decent grass to rabbits
- I do not think Australian Pines are as undesirable as they are purported to be. The no tolerance policy is extreme. What they lack in root depth, is more than offset by the dappled shade they offer.
- all are important- tough to rank as each one needs to be dealt with
- The vacation rentals are lovely for people who can't afford buy homes on Captiva. If residents want exclusivity they should move to a private gated, county club community. Reasonable restrictions, yes...snotty privilege, no.
- just the mangrove specific issue
- People should not be allowed to clear-cut. They should have to use native plantings.
- What's Up Doc?
- Clear-cutting should be permitted, if homeowner/developer submits a plan for planting native trees and shrubs
- If we allow the environment to be destroyed, there won't be a Captiva Island!!
- Again don't let Captiva become Marco Island
- Excessive use of Blind Pass bridge as a fishing pier negatively impacts on the Captiva brand and ambiance.
- How can we get rid of the rabbits?
- Clearcutting should only be allowed as much as needed for new construction as determined by a building inspector.
- 5 trees max seems arbitrary. A more well thought out policy is needed
- A requirement to keep overgrown trees and limbs trimmed along Captiva Dr to help with power lines damages and road blockages after a storm or hurricane
- I don't object to tree cutting or lot clearing for new construction, as most of those properties are then landscaped in a beautiful way.
- discourage homes on the Gold coast to not have open yards from street so passersby have to see every square foot from 200 feet away. People come to Captiva to enjoy the lush vegetation so when you live here why rip it out to put in a lawn and a few decorative small trees like in Palm Beach