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# What is World Environment Day?

World Environment Day is celebrated across the world on 5<sup>TH</sup> June every year, since 1974. World Environment Day is the largest global platform for environmental public outreach and is celebrated by millions of people across the world. The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) organizes events for Environment Day every year to encourage worldwide awareness and action for the protection of environment.

# World Environment Day 2022?

The Government of Sweden will host the World Environment Day 2022 programmes iconic activities in partnership with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). The theme of World Environment Day 2022 is 'Only One Earth'. The year 2022 marks the 50 years since the first United Nations Conference on Human Environment which was held in Stockholm Sweden from June 5- 16 in 1972 that led to the creation of UNEP and designating 5th June as World Environment Day every year. In 1974, the first Word Environment Day was celebrated with the theme "Only One Earth".

Under the theme 'Only One Earth', World Environment Day 2022 will be observed highlighting the need to live sustainably in harmony with nature by transformative changes in our policies and choices towards cleaner and greener lifestyles.

# How to observe World Environmental Day?

#### It reconnects us to nature

Sometimes we forget just how much natural systems support our own well-being. But we're part of nature, and we depend on it. So, today's the perfect occasion to go out and enjoy your country's national parks, and celebrate the vital relationship.

#### It raises awareness

More and more people are starting to understand that we need to sustainably manage our planet's resources and ecosystems. However, that belief is far from universal. That's why World Environment Day is so important: it provides an occasion to raise awareness and teach friends and family that the physical environment is fragile and indispensable. But before you begin promoting environmental awareness in your own community, make sure that you have a thorough understanding of environmental issues yourself. There's always more to learn!

### It encourages us to take action

The environment has become increasingly polluted with contaminants and toxins, and these have a harmful impact on our health. They can cause respiratory diseases and cancer—and that's just for starters. By raising awareness of the issues with the air that sustains us, World Environment Day inspires us to do something about it and fix the environment we can't live without.

#### Why take part?

Time is running out, and nature is in emergency mode. To keep global warming below 1.5°C this century, we must halve annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. Without action, exposure to air pollution beyond safe guidelines will increase by 50 per cent within the decade and plastic waste flowing into aquatic ecosystems will nearly triple by 2040.

We need urgent action to address these pressing issues, making "Only One Earth" and its focus on living sustainably in harmony with nature, as pertinent as ever.

#### Earth faces a triple planetary emergency:

The climate is heating up too quickly for people and nature to adapt.

Habitat loss and other pressures mean an estimated 1 million species are threatened with extinction.

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Pollution continues to poison our air, land and water.

The way out of this dilemma is to transform our economies and societies to make them inclusive, fair and more connected with nature. We must shift from harming the planet to healing it. The good news is the solutions and the technology exist and are increasingly affordable.

#OnlyOneEarth is the campaign for World Environment Day 2022. It calls for collective, transformative action on a global scale to celebrate, protect and restore our planet.

# How to observe World Environmental Day?

#### Make a commitment to recycle

It might seem like a basic tip, but are you really taking every possible opportunity to recycle? Next time you're thinking about throwing that piece of paper in the trash because a recycling bin isn't accessible, think twice. Holding a plastic container and too lazy to see if it's one of the biodegradable kinds? Open up your smartphone and look it up! Everyone's responsible for reducing greenhouse gas emissions — including you.

#### Plant a tree

Trees absorb odours and pollutant gases (nitrogen oxides, ammonia, sulphur dioxide, and ozone) and filter particulates out of the air by trapping them on their leaves and bark. Placed strategically around a single-family home, they can cut summer air conditioning needs by up to 50 percent. By reducing the energy demand for cooling our houses, we reduce carbon dioxide and other pollution emissions from power plants.

#### Volunteer

Anyone can volunteer, and volunteering can make a difference to the whole community. Get out of your comfort zone by volunteering for the National Park Service, or stay local by volunteering at your farmers' market. Any way you choose to participate, you'll feel the positive impact of getting out of the house and caring for the planet.

> In the universe are billions of galaxies, In our galaxy are billions of planets, But there is #OnlyOneEarth. Let's take care of it.









