

# 17th Annual Endangered Species Day

## **Background**

The 17th annual international Endangered Species Day will be celebrated on May 20th, 2022 to recognize conservation efforts that help imperiled species. First held in 2006, Endangered Species Day is an opportunity for people around the world to celebrate, learn about, advocate for, and engage in service on behalf of threatened and endangered species.

Faith communities and religious organizations have been key participants in this special celebration over the past 17 years, along with nonprofits, community groups, businesses, gardens and arboretums, and individuals. Together, these organizations have held hundreds of events across the nation and the world.

Congregations often decide to participate in Endangered Species Day by educating members about the connection between faith, spiritual practice, and the environment, by hosting special events, or by engaging members in service activities that help endangered species.

## **Ideas for Participation**

- Include endangered species or wildlife in your regularly scheduled services.
- Schedule a special service or meeting about endangered species.
- Plan an event for Endangered Species Day, such as a film screening or an animal-themed children's activity such as coloring or arts and crafts.
- Engage your congregation in a service event in the community, such as beach or other habitat clean-up, or painting a mural that depicts endangered species.
- Make the grounds of your building more friendly to endangered species by planting a garden of native plants. Congregations may be eligible for a grant of up to \$300 to plant pollinator gardens. To learn more about funding for pollinator gardens, contact Jeanne Dodds at [jdodds@endangered.org](mailto:jdodds@endangered.org).

## **Important Information**

**REGISTER:** You can register Endangered Species Day events and activities on our event map at [www.endangeredspeciesday.org](http://www.endangeredspeciesday.org). This will help attract more people to your event and helps us map how many events are happening nationwide!

**QUESTIONS?:** Contact Sarah Starman, Endangered Species Day Director. Email: [sstarman@endangered.org](mailto:sstarman@endangered.org). Phone: 734-657-5251.

**RESOURCES:** You can find resources related to Endangered Species Day in our toolkit at [www.endangeredspeciesday.org](http://www.endangeredspeciesday.org), including guides to planning and promoting events, sample social media posts, ready-made infographics to use for displays, coloring pages and worksheets for children's activities, printable stickers, and more.