



Think Globally. Act Locally!

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Good morning,

Re: Healthy Oceans: Beautiful, Mysterious and Absolutely Essential



World Oceans Day will be held this year on 8th June 2025. Now, we all know that the ocean is important, but do we truly grasp how important? And do we really understand how at risk it currently is?

The ocean not only provides a minimum 50% of Earth's oxygen, and helps sustain a large population of people; but also, harbours the planet's highest amount of biodiversity and lifts up economies worldwide.

Don't believe it? Look at the statistics:

- "The ocean covers over 70% of the planet. It is our life source, supporting humanity's sustenance and that of every other organism on earth" - United Nations.
- "Our ocean contains 80% of the world's biodiversity, and so the ocean is essential to our existence" - Marine Stewardship Council.
- "...an estimated 40 million people being employed by ocean-based industries by 2030" - United Nations.

The ocean simply cannot replenish itself at the rate at which we are taking from it. Alarmingly, 90% of big fish populations (e.g. tuna, cod, etc.) have already disappeared as a result of overfishing. According to Parley Tv, a worldwide environmental network and organisation, "Estimates show that if overfishing continues at the current rate, fish populations could collapse by 2048". On another note, approximately ½ of coral reefs have been destroyed. The value of coral is undeniable, with it contributing to a global amount of 10 trillion dollars annually. Australia's Great Barrier Reef alone contributes

around 6.4 billion dollars each year to the economy and provides approximately 64,000 full-time jobs.

What makes World Ocean Day so important?

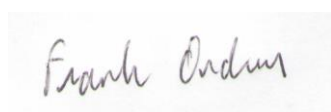
- It brings public awareness to the consequence human actions have on our oceans
- It encourages an international movement of people for the ocean
- It inspires and unifies citizens on a globally relevant mission to sustainably manage our oceans

For those who choose to take part, remember this year's theme: "Wonder: Sustaining what sustains us" - United Nations. It seems clear that we are being asked to examine our oceans in full splendour: why are they so beautiful? What do we have left to discover about them? And most importantly, what crucial role do they play in the planet's health and the lives of those who inhabit it?

Please join hands with Householders Options To Protect The Environment (HOPE) Inc. and celebrate World Oceans Day 2025. Show your oceans some love!

References:

- United Nations. (n.d.). "World Oceans Day 8 June". - <https://www.un.org/en/observances/oceans-day>
- NOAA Fisheries. (Last updated by Office of Habitat Conservation on 2021, September 27). "Restoring Coral Reefs." - <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/habitat-conservation/restoring-coral-reefs#:~:text=Coral%20reefs%20are%20damaged%20due,of%20its%20coral%20reefs%20already>
- Parley Tv. (n.d.). "Industrial Fishing & Biodiversity Loss" - <https://parley.tv/threats/biodiversity-loss>
- Marine Stewardship Council. (n.d.) "Marine biodiversity is vital to life in our ocean. We can all play a part in protecting marine biodiversity." <https://www.msc.org/en-au/what-we-are-doing/oceans-at-risk/marine-biodiversity>
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