

UN Environment Day: Sunday 5 June 2011 Celebrating the International Year of Forests

Hello everyone

The 5th of June 2011 is UN World environment day and it is the day where the UN formally celebrates the International Year of Forests.

Activities have been occurring throughout the year all over the world to promote and encourage the protection of forests and I would encourage each and every one of us to think about how we can do something on Sunday to make a difference.

What ever type of action we decide to take no matter how small or large, please consider in your own way how you can support a WA based or National organisations that actively protect “Forests” or promote the protection of endangered bio-diversity habitats such as specific flora and fauna.

In undertaking the support of endangered plants and animals we indirectly protect the forests were that bio-diversity is found.

In itself Western Australia has some very unique forest habitats and while we do not have the tropical lush green forests that gain the “headlines” associated with deforestation, biodiversity protection and climate change, we do have very unique biodiversity.

One example of course is the fact that we have some of the oldest large timber forests in the world in our south west that are in themselves at risk as we have vastly decreased these areas through land clearing as the population has expanded.

What is important is to recognize that while we need to farm and undertake activities in and around forest areas through out the world, the UN is promoting the balance of use and protection of our unique forests and bio-diversity habitats to raise awareness of the importance the Forrest and the fact that we do need to look after what we have left.

The following are two examples of the 2011 UN world environment day - the International Year of Forests activities or programs you can either directly support and/or register through the website

- Conservation council of WA – Say Yes to Climate Action
 - Perth Culture Centre from 11 am Sunday 5th June, registration via their event link [here](#)
- Perth Zoo events web page – 2011 International year of forests, click [here](#)

- This web page celebrates Perth Zoos commitment to Global Forest Projects and is co-coordinated by Wayne Walters at Perth Zoo
- Is something we can all be apart of all year round and you can follow through Perth Zoo's Facebook page or via their web site

Please check the UN International Year of Forests web page at http://www.internationalyearofforests.com.au/news_march.php and you will see that events occurring throughout the year around Australia.

The environment committee would love to get an update on an event that a UNAA(WA) member attends or is going to attend that represents the International Year of the Forrest in 2011. Just send in the details to office@unaa-wa.org.au and we will circulate these events as general interest items to members

On behalf of the environment committee please enjoy UN World Environment Day this Sunday and think about how we all can do a little bit to protect and enjoy the forests that holds some of the most precious bio-diversity left on earth.

Paul Elkington
Acting convener
UNAA(WA) environment committee