Half-Earth Day: Leave No Species Behind

A healthy planet is not only visionary and inspiring, it is within reach. But to get there, we must leverage science and come together to enact solutions. Half-Earth Day® is where that happens. Held annually on October 22, Half-Earth Day gathers people from around the world and across disciplines to share their unique perspectives and thought leadership on how we can work together to ensure the health of our planet for future generations. A part of The Half-Earth Project®, the event brings together scientists, Indigenous and local community leaders, and global conservation and multinational organizations to share their voices and visions for how we can best care for the millions of species that share our earth and ensure we leave no species behind.

The Half-Earth Project

If we conserve half of Earth’s lands, waters and seas, we can safeguard the bulk of our planet’s biodiversity. Inspired by renowned biologist and naturalist E.O. Wilson, the Half-Earth Project is bringing this vision to life.

However, saving species isn’t just about protecting more places. It’s about protecting the right places, the places where we have the best opportunity to protect the most species. That’s where the Half-Earth Project is leading the way, mapping Earth’s biodiversity and providing the information needed to make conservation management decisions that give species and people the space they need to thrive, together.

The Half-Earth Project aims to inspire a global movement that translates scientific leadership into informed conservation action. It has science at its core and our moral obligation to the rest of life at its heart.

How the Half-Earth Project Works

- Driving research to better understand the species of our planet and their interactions within ecosystems.
- Providing conservation management leadership by mapping the species of our planet and identifying where we have the best opportunity to protect the most species.
- Engaging people everywhere to participate in caring for our planet and achieving Half-Earth.
Half-Earth Day 2021
The Half-Earth Project, in partnership with the Eden Project, will hold its annual Half-Earth Day series of events in London on October 21-22, 2021. Over two days, lectures and panels will explore the ethical imperative to “Leave No Species Behind.” This year’s event is particularly significant, falling within the Convention on Biological Diversity in Kunming, China, during which countries will negotiate new global conservation targets, and right before the United Nations annual Climate Change Conference (COP-26) in Glasgow. The state of the natural world will be more topical than ever, and the Half-Earth Project will take full advantage of that.

The events will be held at the Royal Society and the Royal Geographic Society in London and will include the James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Distinguished Lectureship in Biodiversity “Ecosystems & The Harmony of Nature” given by E.O. Wilson; speaker Razan Al Mubarak, Managing Director of the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi; and a keynote conversation between Sir David Attenborough, English broadcaster and natural historian, and Dr. Wilson, moderated by Sir Tim Smit of the Eden Project. Other sessions will feature educators inspiring conservation in the classroom, scientists working to preserve species, and community and government leaders thinking strategically about people and places. Past events have featured actress and activist Glenn Close, legendary musician Paul Simon, Obama aid Reggie Love, Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times Columnist Thomas L. Friedman and former Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell.

This year is being widely viewed as a pivotal one for biodiversity, with President Biden’s America the Beautiful plan unfolding in the US and a push for an ambitious, science-backed deal to safeguard nature and humanity’s future on the global stage. The state of the natural world will be more topical than ever, and Half-Earth Day 2021 will be a part of the momentum.

Half-Earth Day 2021 Sponsorship
Caring for the environment and human health calls for the best of our science and ingenuity, along with a strong sense of compassion and moral compass. We hope you will join us as we showcase how we can safeguard the long-term health of our planet to ensure we leave no species behind. Half-Earth Day sponsorship is available for a limited number of individuals, companies and foundations and may include such benefits as:

- Half-Earth Day Toolkit with press release announcing partnership, social media tools, message to employees and more
- Logo/name on Half-Earth Day landing page
- Joint logo for use in promotion to the public
- Distribution of co-branded merchandise
- Content-related opportunities at the event such as: speaking, blog authorship, specific session affiliations
- Premier seating

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