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Earth Day

texts



EARTH DAY
INTERNATIONAL



How to destroy the Earth in One Minute - Happy Earth Day!

If an alien were to ask what humans excel at, the answer might be "destroying their planet and themselves." But can we change this? Let's see. Earth Day could be a good start. But what exactly is Earth Day? It's an annual event on April 22nd that celebrates the accomplishments of environmental movements and raises awareness about the importance of long-term ecological sustainability.

So, what does sustainability mean? Sustainability means using only resources we can replenish to prevent depletion and planning responsibly for the future to maintain a comfortable lifestyle.

Are we currently living sustainably? Unfortunately, we know we're not. This paradox poses a serious threat to the earth. We're aware of our impending danger, yet we continue with our destructive actions. And this countdown may be shorter than we think. If we consider Earth's 4.6 billion years as a 46-year-old's lifespan, humanity's impact emerges only within the last few hours, with agriculture discovered just an hour ago and the Industrial Revolution starting a minute ago, marking the beginning of our devastating impact. Earth Day aims to spotlight this crisis. Have we destroyed the earth in one minute? Not yet, but maybe in the next minute if we don't change anything.

What might this change entail? Embracing sustainability, as mentioned earlier, is crucial, but there's more. Preserving wildlife to safeguard ecosystems, ultimately securing our own survival, is essential. In my opinion, Celebrating Earth Day could be a good start of raising people's awareness about these problems. However, it's not enough. We must establish ambitious targets, such as the 30x30 milestone goal, a global initiative aiming to protect 30% of land and oceans by 2030. While global action is critical, personal responsibility is equally important. As Michael Jackson urged, it starts with the "Man in the mirror." In conclusion, while initiatives like Earth Day and the 30x30 milestone goal offer promising beginnings, we must strive for more ambitious and comprehensive solutions to address all environmental challenges.

Johannes

Earth Day - The ultimate solution to climate change?

As Earth Day approaches on April 22nd, let's think about its importance since it began in 1970. This yearly event is a global platform to raise awareness about climate change and encourage action to tackle it. Leading this effort is [Earthday.org](https://www.earthday.org), a non-profit organization dedicated to fighting climate change, preserving ecosystems, and promoting sustainable living.

Throughout the year, [Earthday.org](https://www.earthday.org) leads initiatives to address these urgent issues, focusing especially on projects in developing countries. Their main goals include reducing waste, cutting carbon emissions, restoring habitats, and educating people about climate change. These aims rely on the commitment of volunteers and the support of donors. By collaborating with partners and individuals from 192 countries, [Earthday.org](https://www.earthday.org) aims to increase its impact globally.

At the heart of [Earthday.org](https://www.earthday.org)'s mission is the need to protect our planet for future generations by removing harmful pollutants and safeguarding ecosystems. However, achieving these goals requires collective action. Every individual has a crucial role to play in making positive changes. We can't just continue as usual; instead, we need to come together to implement meaningful solutions and protect our planet for generations to come.

To sum it up, I strongly believe that Earth Day is to be celebrated not to make people live in fear of climate change, but to remind them that this is still a pressing issue of our time, even though the news in today's world rarely talk about it anymore. Therefore this leads to a yearly reminder for people that we still need to solve this global problem which cannot be solved in a small moment but only over a long period of time. Since for most humans, change is something that has to come slow and steady in order to work. Because in the end, we are the one responsible for climate change and therefore it's

ours to solve. Act responsible. Make the change.

—> Florian

Are you the 'man in the mirror'?

Monday 8th April 2024

A big problem, which is currently discussed not only among politicians is how rifles humans treated the earth. To my mind it's really shocking information that humans in Germany used 3 worlds but we have just one earth. And this using is just in Germany other countries used more worlds.

Humans often ignore the ways they mis-treated the earth. We use vital resources without replacing them, for example deforestation is a huge issue. We cut down so many trees without planting new ones fast enough. Marine pollution is another problem. We fishing too much and destroy the Marine environment. This is just one example how we don't care about animals and their habitat even in the arctic regions, pollbaers don't have enough space as the Gletschers are melting. We are ignoring some of the basics to keep natural resources safe

In addition to that is our behaviour. We have to change our lifestyle, because we are to comfortable for example many people, who live close to the town, drive with an car to school. If more people take the bus than the CO₂-Ausstoff can be better. Many humans think it doesn't matter if they change their lifestyle but it is a big deal. You can change and influence other people. Our supply is not endless. If we use vital ressources than only the ressources that we need but with replacing them than they ressources can run out like trees.

to conclude I would like to say if we don't change us than we can extinct like the Easter Island. We should stopp the extinct rate. Than if we protect animals habitat we protect ourself. The big and difficult change is in our head and minds. You have to change for saving the world. You are the Man in the Mirror, who has a big influence on the world.

Sorry Earth, we will do better !

Earthday, every where you hear about it, but What is exactly the Earthday? The Earthday is on the 22 April. It is an annual celebration honoring the achievements of longterm ecological sustainability. In my opinion it is important to raise awareness about the bad conditions of our surrounding and the best opportunity is the Earthday. The Earthday is all around us.

We have done many things that aren't very sustainable. Some examples are on one hand the use of nuclear power witch restovers degrades very slowly and have many major and longterm impacts on our nature. On the other hand are our seas currently pushed beyond the biological limits by overfishing them. As if this weren't enough, we also capture in this process many unwanted sea animals. This means for example that we fish animals like turtles, dolphins or corals (the habitat for many sea creatures) . In the consequence of that billions of fish and other sea creatures loose their lives or get a very bad wound. Only because we want to fish the other species of fish from the sea. Overfishing is one example for our unsustainable consumption. We use more resources than we need and the unused resources into the garbage. In conclusion we use all the resources the earth can produce in one year in half an year, so we use more than we should. If we want to keep the earth healthy, we have to change something. Following the high plastic waste don't really help the earth. It does in fact the opposite. Over 400 Mio.tons of plastic are produced. This is an very big number and atleast 14 Mio. tons and up in the ozean and nature. Tons of fish loose their life due to this. There are also more things with, witch we don't have helped the earth but let's concentrate on the things we can change to help the earth get better. At first we have to change our view and not only see our benefits, but to see the overall. If we inform us more we can also see how important this is. It can also help to see the animals and nature as an ally, because you help your allies and safe them. The minimalisation can also help to decrease the plastic pollution and resources shortage. In the following we could also find ways to recycle our waste and make sth. new.

My conclusion from all the mentioned points is, that we did several things wrong in the past. But we can change our destiny if we change our destiny if we change ourselves and make an change as an ally between nature, animals and humans. It is not too late for us to make the world a better place.

Anonymous

From Earth Day to Everyday: Taking Action for a Sustainable Future

We have all discussed climate change extensively, whether in school, at home, or during protests. We are aware of the various measures in place to combat it and raise awareness. Earth Day is a prime example of this, a day dedicated to honouring the accomplishments of the environmental movement and emphasizing the importance of long-term ecological sustainability. But how effective is this celebration in making a real impact?

Let's address the negative effects humans have had and continue to have on Earth, such as the significant loss of biodiversity. The current extinction rate is 1000-10000 times higher than the natural rate, primarily due to man-made destruction of ecosystems through activities like deforestation and greenhouse gas emissions leading to global warming and glacier melting. Climate change also results in more frequent natural disasters, harming both humans and animals.

However, on Earth Day, we celebrate our accomplishments rather than our destruction. For instance, Germany generated over 50% of its energy from renewable sources last year. We already possess solutions in various fields; we just need to further develop and enhance them. Globally, initiatives like the Paris Climate Agreement and the 30x30 milestone goal aim to compel countries to take action promptly.

While these plans and commitments may seem distant and abstract, there are simple steps individuals can take in their daily lives to contribute. From conserving energy to reducing waste, especially plastic, to being mindful of consumption habits, every action counts.

To address biodiversity loss, consider planting species crucial for endangered animals. Additionally, supporting organizations, signing petitions, or opting for sustainable brands can make a positive impact.

By making sustainable choices, we not only benefit ourselves but also the environment and animals affected by our actions.

Encouragingly, by making small changes like consuming less meat and dairy, using public transport, or biking, we can collectively make a difference. It is essential to start with ourselves and then address broader global issues to create a more sustainable future. Together, we can build on our existing solutions and work towards a brighter tomorrow.

by Finja

Earth Day, a moment of healing

Every year, people around the world come together to celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd, raising awareness of the importance of a healthier Earth and a brighter future. Earth Day serves as a reminder to protect the environment for future generations, stemming from the 1970 protest. Historically, humans have often viewed the Earth as an infinite resource, leading to overexploitation and even extinction events like that on Easter Island. The rapid industrialization and technological advancements have resulted in unprecedented environmental degradation, endangering ecosystems globally.

While many have raised awareness of these challenges through various mediums like songs and podcasts, more action is needed to truly make a positive impact. Living sustainably, governments, businesses, and individuals adopting eco-friendly practices, and reducing carbon footprints are crucial steps. However, significant challenges persist, such as the escalating effects of climate change and the alarming rate of biodiversity loss due to habitat destruction and pollution.

On this Earth Day, let us recommit ourselves to protecting our only home. Let us appreciate the beauty of the natural world and collaborate to ensure a sustainable future for generations to come. By embracing our responsibility as stewards of the Earth, we can foster a harmonious coexistence between humans and nature, safeguarding the planet for future generations to cherish.

- Anonymous

"Celebrating Earth Day: Inspiring Change for a Sustainable Future"

"As the awareness of the perilous implications of climate change continues to burgeon, it becomes increasingly imperative that we take decisive action. Earth Day, observed annually on April 22nd, serves as a poignant reminder of our collective duty to safeguard our planet and foster sustainable practices. It is a time for introspection, a moment to ponder how we can mitigate our impact on the environment and forge a path towards a more sustainable future.

Earth Day prompts us to contemplate the intricate interplay between human activity and the natural world. It underscores the profound responsibility we bear to mitigate our ecological footprint and preserve the integrity of Earth's ecosystems. From the towering rainforests to the vast expanses of the oceans, our planet teems with biodiversity, each component intricately intertwined in the delicate web of life. Yet, deforestation, overexploitation of resources, and rampant pollution have wrought havoc on these ecosystems, imperiling countless species and destabilizing the delicate balance of nature.

In light of these challenges, Earth Day beckons us to reevaluate our lifestyles and embrace sustainable alternatives. Simple yet impactful actions, such as reducing carbon emissions by utilizing public transportation or adopting a plant-based diet to alleviate pressure on agricultural resources, can collectively yield significant benefits for our planet.

Moreover, Earth Day serves as a platform for advocacy and education, empowering individuals to become catalysts for change in their communities. By raising awareness about environmental issues and championing sustainable initiatives, we can inspire others to join the global movement towards a greener, more equitable future.

In conclusion, Earth Day embodies not only a call to action but also a testament to the resilience of the human spirit. It is a reminder that through collective effort and unwavering commitment, we can chart a course towards a sustainable and harmonious coexistence with nature, ensuring a legacy of prosperity for generations to come."

Fabian Rall

Awareness to action

On April 22, Earth day is coming up again. It is an annual celebration that honours the achievements of the environmental movement and raises awareness of the importance of long-term ecological sustainability.

The ignorance of the generations before ours towards climate protection now forces us to act accordingly. But is it even possible to reverse former actions?

Past innovations changed the earth's health drastically. Since the age of industrialisation, our planet suffered a big loss of resources, plastic pollution and earth warming through emission gases. At first, people weren't aware of the fact that they influence the climate and the ecology. But the way I see it, as soon as they did, there still wasn't a significant difference in their behaviour.

Nowadays there are multiple compaignes or organisations that aim to animate people to self reflect and to act more sustainably but they definitely don't get as much attention as they should. Though we as a country already achieved some principles like recycling or seperating the different kinds of waste but it's simply not enough. Everybody has to participate in saving the earth by saving resources, trying to avoid emission gases, reducing waste and preserving ecosystems with their inhabitants.

The biggest problem is that many people don't care to act. Everybody knows that we need these things to change but the majority of the humans on earth are convinced that it isn't their responsibility, that their actions don't matter anyway because the others won't adopt. That's why we need to find a solution in which every individual in every nation participates and in which not everyone brushes the problem off themself. The only way we can turn this process around is together.

Hoping to have reached all of your minds, i urge everybody to take a look in the mirror. From then on, change your awareness to action so that we can try saving our planet together and that generations after us have the chance to enjoy life while living sustainably. Act, people!

by Charly

"Together We Can"

"I admit, it is often difficult to fully believe in this well-known slogan when faced with the immense environmental and climate problems on Earth. However, giving up on saving the Earth is not an option! We need to take decisive action now. That's why approximately one billion people from around the world stood up and celebrated Earth Day, honoring achievements and aiming to raise awareness of the paramount importance of protecting the Earth in society. In the following text, I will examine the deleterious effects of climate change, delineate what we can and must do about it, and also scrutinize Earth Day and its efficacy in safeguarding the climate and the environment.

Did you know that if humanity continues to exploit the Earth as we do today, we would require almost a second planet? This issue of Earth's exploitation by humans is starkly illustrated by Earth Overshoot Day, which marks the date when all resources that can regenerate within one year are depleted. In 2023, it fell on August 2nd. Examples of this exploitation include rampant deforestation, voracious consumption of fossil fuels, unchecked overfertilization, unsustainable overfishing, and more. Alongside environmental degradation, another pressing issue is global warming. 2023 was recorded as the warmest year yet. The precipitous melting of glaciers, the thawing of permafrost, escalating acidity levels, and an uptick in extreme weather events are already glaringly evident. By mentioning only a few consequences of climate change, one can grasp its catastrophic impact and the urgent need for concerted action. We must curtail our greenhouse gas emissions and adopt more sustainable practices with Earth's finite resources.

To achieve this laudable goal, many people have coalesced to create the celebration of Earth Day. It encompasses a plethora of actions aimed at reminding people of the existential importance of combating the degradation of the planet and lauding the successes of the environmental and climate movements. But is it an efficacious approach? From my perspective, it is an affirmative initiative because it raises consciousness about environmental and climate issues, galvanizes people to take resolute action against the despoliation of Earth, and instills hope that the pernicious effects of climate change can be ameliorated through collective efforts. However, it does not directly counteract climate change and environmental degradation; rather, it constitutes one facet of myriad endeavors toward cultivating a more sustainable lifestyle.

In conclusion, humanity has had and continues to have a momentous and deleterious impact on Earth, necessitating urgent action. Celebrating Earth Day can serve as a salient component of the odyssey toward a way of living that does not imperil or despoil the Earth."

Power of the little steps - just do them!

In 1970 a few committed politicians encouraged millions of Americans to actively raise awareness and built an environmental movement. On April 22th each year people should get mobilized and activated to think about their way of treating our environment and what we can do in terms of working against environmental degradation. In the following article I know want to give you a few aspects and suggestions to think about in reference to the international Earth Day.

Turns out the concept of so called „Earth Day“ that started as a small, American only movement is an international success. Today it gets celebrated in 192 countries including germany. So thats our sign too to remember the importance of protecting the environment that's vital for us and gets perpetually damaged more and more with every day we aren't working against this alarming development. Global warming, loss of biodiversity, environmental pollution this processes force us to finally do something because the time's running against us.

Additionally Earth day should be a sign for us to use the force people can generate and that becomes visible through the actions and campains on April 22th. Part of this power are the multiple projekts schools can join in for example „Mobil ohne Auto“ where students and teachers commit to come to school without using a car or „green lung“ which encourages schools or at least certain classes to start tree planting campains.

Finally there's another important day to catch our attention and to make the damage humans cause and will cause on earth visible. „Earth overshoot day“ is the name scientists give to the day each year on which the ressources earth can rebuilt in one year are used up and from that on we life over our circumstances. The alarming thing is that „earth overshoot day“ tends to be each year even earlier than the year before what means our consumption of ressources gets not smaller what would be really required instead it gets even bigger each year. While during early 1980s it was around the first of November now just 40 years later it is aound August 1st! This difference is obviously huge and should be a warning for us.

In the End my conclusion is that Earth day definitely is a important and useful movement and it's great that people over 50 years after its start still support the concept and let it inspire them. On the other side i think earth day should not only be once a year, instead we should think about or environment every day and use our power to go little steps along and step by step make a difference.

Earth Day: hugely important or rather unnecessary?

Earth Day, a day to celebrate what we have achieved in addressing climate change. Even though it is meant to be a celebration, it often feels less than joyful. News like "the hottest summer on record" or "new records for extreme weather events" flood the internet. It can be somewhat depressing, especially considering that the actions of most individuals seem to make little difference. This year, I posed a question to myself:

Do we really need to celebrate Earth Day?

Objectively, my carbon footprint is a fraction of the total greenhouse gases emitted by the human race. Even if I dedicated my entire life to minimizing my emissions, I would only save the equivalent of a few seconds of what companies like Amazon and Alphabet emit daily. However, I then consider that maybe it's not just about the emissions I'm directly saving; perhaps it's more about the social impact I'm making. The way my actions influence my surroundings, politics, or the free market might be what Earth Day is truly about. If our collective actions steer politics toward an ecological path, they could theoretically compel companies to follow suit, leading to a potentially effective way to combat climate change.

In conclusion, I've decided that Earth Day does matter. The more we focus on this topic, the more awareness is raised, the more people are motivated to act towards a better climate. Perhaps even the more conservative politicians and companies will, at some point, begin to take these issues seriously and work towards solutions. But only time will tell if these changes will occur in time to save our ecosystems, and consequently, ourselves.

A text by Luna Haushalter (J1)