

World Environment Day ~ ~ June 5

World Environment Day is the United Nations' most important day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the protection of the environment.

"This year's observance of World Environment Day shines a much-needed spotlight on the illegal trade in wildlife. This is grave cause for alarm. Elephants are being slaughtered for their ivory, rhinos for their horns, and pangolins for their scales. From sea turtles to tigers to rosewood, thousands of species of wild animals and plants are being driven ever closer to extinction. On this World Environment Day, I urge people and governments everywhere to overcome indifference, combat greed and act to preserve our natural heritage for the benefit of this and future generations." (Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary General, U.N.)

Prayer for God's Creatures

*Hear our humble prayer, O God,
for our friends the animals,
especially for animals who are suffering;
for animals that are overworked,
underfed and cruelly treated;
for all wistful creatures in captivity
that beat their wings against bars;
for any that are hunted or lost or deserted
or frightened or hungry;
for all that must be put death.*

*We entreat for them all Thy mercy and pity,
and for those who deal with them
we ask a heart of compassion
and gentle hands and kindly words.
Make us, ourselves, to be true friends to animals,
and so to share the blessings of the merciful.*

Author - Albert Schweitzer

