



STEWARDS OF OUR EARTH *All of God's Creation*

Social Justice Committee, Holy Cross Parish, Mt. Airy, May 11, 2025

Endangered Species Day - 20th Anniversary

The 20th annual, international Endangered Species Day takes place on Friday, May 16th.

“Endangered Species Day is an opportunity for people of all ages to celebrate and learn about endangered species and how to protect them. 2025 is particularly special because it marks the 20th Anniversary of celebrating Endangered Species Day.

Here are a couple of fun ways for you and family members to participate.

Endangered Species Chalk Art Event (May 1- 18) This is an all-ages chalk art competition. You're invited to create chalk art in your neighborhood depicting threatened or endangered species. Post a photo of your chalk art on Facebook or Instagram to help spread the word. All participants are eligible for prizes – and will help to raise awareness of the importance of protecting wildlife.

Community Science (Throughout May) Participate in science at home or in your neighborhood through apps including iNaturalist, E-Bird, and Merlin Bird ID ... to empower yourself and those around you to be community conservation scientists!” (Tara Thornton, *Endangered Species Coalition*, 5/1/25)

Endangered species in Pennsylvania include our amazing pollinators and other insects.

“Populations of butterflies, bees and nearly 100 other insect species found in Pennsylvania are currently listed as endangered, threatened or species of concern.” ([ref](#))

“The PA Fish and Boat Commission is charged with safeguarding the state's threatened fish, amphibians, and reptiles. Authority to protect endangered bird and mammal species in Pennsylvania has been given to the PA Game Commission. And the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is charged with protecting endangered plant species.

Yet no agency in Pennsylvania was ever given authority under state law to protect threatened pollinators and other endangered insect species.

Fortunately, **a new proposal in the state legislature would close this loophole** and make sure that threatened species of insects and pollinators receive the protection that they so sorely need and deserve. It would do this by giving Pennsylvania's Department of Conservation and Natural Resources the authority to conserve the state's great native insect species that call the Keystone State home.” (David Masur, Executive Director, *PennEnvironment, Inc.*, 1/17/25)

[Ask your state representative to add their name to this proposal today. Then share this alert with friends and family and ask them to do the same.](#)

Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things.

(Robert Brault, *All God's Creatures*, 8/4/22)

Comments on this column may be directed to the Social Justice Committee at socialjustice@holycrossphl.org.
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